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PLO'S 'ARAFAT MEETS WITH LEBANESE LEADER JUNBLATT

JN190730 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 19 Oct 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the revolution forces, met yesterday with brother Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party. On the Palestinian side, the meeting was attended by brothers Abu al-Lutf and Abu Iyad. Brothers Muhsin Ibrahim, George Hawi and Tawfiq Sultan represented the Lebanese nationalist movement at the meeting. A review was made of the Palestinian and Lebanese situation, particularly in southern Lebanon.

PLO DELEGATION RETURNS TO BEIRUT FROM IRAN VISIT

JN190810 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 19 Oct 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad, member of the Fatah Central Committee and the General Command of the Al-'Asifah Forces, returned to Beirut last night following a visit to the Iranian Islamic Republic.

It will be recalled that brother Abu Jihad met with several Iranian officials, headed by leader of the Iranian revolution Ayatollah Khomeyni. He also met with Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan, Foreign Minister Yazdi and the chairman and members of the Iranian Council of Experts.

'ARAFAT ENVOY LEAVES FOR LATIN AMERICA WITH MESSAGES

JN181408 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 18 Oct 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 18 October--An envoy of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Beirut this afternoon on a tour of Latin American states which are members of the nonalined movement.

Palestinian sources said that the envoy, whose name was not disclosed, is carrying written messages from 'Arafat to the heads of these states related to the latest developments in the Palestinian question and the situation in the region, in addition to the PLO's relations with these states.

ABU AL-LUTF, PLO DELEGATION TO VISIT BELGIUM

JN171401 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 17 Oct 79 JN

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee has decided to form a delegation to visit Brussels within the next 2 days. The delegation will be chaired by brother Abu al-Lutf, chief of the PLO Political Department, and will include brothers Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani and Basil 'Aql. While in Brussels, the delegation will hold talks with Belgian Government officials.

KUWAIT

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES TO REPORT ON TEHRAN MEETING

LD181341 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1210 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Excerpts] Kuwait--A Palestinian delegation which includes representatives of the Palestinian revolution in the Gulf states arrived here from Tehran today. The visit to Kuwait is part of its tour of the Arabian Gulf states to acquaint the leaders of these oil-rich states with the outcome of talks which a high-level Palestinian delegation conducted with senior Iranian officials last week. The delegation includes: Salim az-Za'nun--alias Abu al-Adis--Rafiq Natshah, Ribhi Awad, Yasin ash-Sharif and Wafa Nabhan.

Az-Za'nun told reporters at the airport that representatives of the Palestinian revolution in the Arabian Gulf states had attended a meeting in Tehran called for by member of the Central Committee of the Palestinian national liberation movement, Fatah, Khalil al-Wazir--alias Abu Jihad--who acquainted them with the talks he conducted with senior Iranian officials.

Al-Wazir had arrived in the Iranian capital last Thursday at the head of a high-level Palestinian delegation which included the head of Fatah's military operations section, Sa'd Sayil--alias Abu al-Walid--and conducted talks with Iranian leaders headed by religious leader Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni. The talks centered on improvement of Iran's relations with its Arab Gulf neighbors and the removal of the tensions which recently has prevailed in these relations.

Az-Za'nun said the purpose of the talks the Palestinian delegation had conducted with Iranian officials was "to put the brothers in the picture for a joint action to clear the atmosphere in the region and move it toward integration of the Arab world and Islamic Iran so as to close all avenues to the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation and so that everyone would adopt a single stand toward the Zionist enemy and American imperialism."

Al-Wazir had conferred earlier this week with the Arab ambassadors accredited to Iran acquainting them with the outcome of his talks with Iranian officials.

PDRY

FISHERY TALKS HELD WITH SOVIET PARTY DELEGATION

LD181628 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD/EA

[Text] Brother Anis Hasan Yahya, member of the Political Bureau and minister of fish resources, today received the Soviet party delegation led by Comrade Shakirov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Secretariat and party officials of Bashkirskaya ASSR. Discussions at the meeting centered on the relations between the two friendly countries and ways to develop them. The two sides stressed their determination to increase cooperation in the exploitation of fish resources in the interests of the two friendly countries.

Brother Anis Hasan Yahya also received the comrade Soviet ambassador in Aden, with whom he discussed ways to strengthen and consolidate cooperation between the two countries in the exploitation of fish resources.

Soviet Fisheries Delegation

LD190650 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD/EA

[Text] Brother Anis Hasan Yahya, member of the Political Bureau and minister of fish resources, this morning met Comrade Nikolay Kudryavtsev, Soviet deputy minister of the fish industry and leader of the Soviet fisheries delegation. Ways of strengthening and consolidating cooperation between the two countries in the field of fisheries were discussed at the meeting, which was also attended by brother (Abd al-Wahhab) Shihab, deputy miniser of [words indistinct], several officials of the Ministry of Fish Resources and members of the Soviet [words indistinct] delegation.

FISHERIES MINISTER MEETS WITH CUBAN AMBASSADOR

LD190652 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Brother Anis Hasan Yahya, member of the Political Bureau and minister of fish resources, received in his office last night Comrade Justino Baro, ambassador of the Republic of Cuba in Aden; relations between the two friendly countries in the field of fish resources exploitation were discussed at the meeting, as well as (?ways of developing) them. The ADEN NEWS AGENCY has learned that the deputy minister of the fish industry of the Republic of Cuba will visit Democratic Yemen [words indistinct]

SOCIALIST PARTY REVIEWS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LD181732 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD/EA

[Excerpts] The Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee has been holding its sixth ordinary session since last Tuesday. During the four meetings held in this session several issues have been discussed, the most important of which were the level of implementation achieved in the execution of the production plan in the industrial, agricultural and fisheries sectors; the political report submitted by the Political Bureau, which touches on the Yemeni, Arab and international situations during the course of the Central Committee's session; the internal party situation; the party's statistical report; and the report on the measures adopted in the sphere of supplies.

At its meetings during the current session, the Central Committee reviewed the economic development in the industrial, agricultural and fisheries sectors in comparison with their development over past years. The Central Committee confirmed that there has been continued development in the strengthening of the state sector in our economic life, which in turn encourages the mixed and private sectors in the sphere of production. The Central Committee warned of the need to resist resolutely negative manifestations seeking to obstruct economic development in the country and stressed the need to strengthen the role of supervision and control at party and mass levels in economic spheres.

A communique on the sixth ordinary session of the YSP Central Committee from brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Central Committee, is due to be issued later.

YSP Meeting Continues

LD182236 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD/EA

[Summary] The Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) Central Committee continued its sixth session with a further meeting this afternoon to discuss the Political Bureau's political report.

"Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council, will issue a special communique tomorrow on the work done and results achieved at the YSP Central Committee's sixth ordinary session.

ADDIS ABABA MAYOR DEPARTS FOLLOWING VISIT

LD181718 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD/EA

[Summary] An Ethiopian delegation led by the mayor of Addis Ababa, Alemu Abebe, left Aden for home today after attending the PDRY's anniversary celebrations.

"Shortly before leaving Aden international airport, Comrade Alemu Abebe told the ADEN NEWS AGENCY: Our visit to Democratic Yemen gave us an opportunity to acquaint ourselves with the landmarks of progress in the country during the few years of national independence. He described his visit to our country as extremely successful, expressing his conviction that it would bring about closer militant ties between the peoples of the two friendly countries, Yemen and Ethiopia. He added that the future would bring increased fruitful cooperation through the exchange of expertise in various fields between the local government council in Democratic Yemen and the Addis Ababa municipality."

SAUDI ARABIA

AR-RIYAD REVIEWS MIDEAST ISSUE IN U.S. POLITICS

LD181419 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 16 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Just the Beginning"]

[Excerpts] The candidates in the U.S. presidential elections are avoiding discussing foreign politics, particularly the Middle East problem, which they look on as if it were the Bermuda Triangle. Most of them have probably learned the lesson of Carter's recklessness in this respect. Their current statements deal only with the internal affairs of their country and some aspects of foreign policy. This, however, does not mean that they will not broach the subject later. Rather, their refraining from doing so now indicates that this is a wait-and-see attitude. This is the new method which Democrats Edward Kennedy and Brown and the Republican Reagan are adopting today. The greatest loser in this game is Carter.

Although the election battle is still far off, strategic preparations for it are well advanced. The candidates have dealt with the various aspects of the internal crisis and ignored foreign policy, but only for a while. It is a known fact that they all support Israel and most of them are in favor of the area remaining in its state of chaos and terror, if this is in Israel's interest.

The candidates have realized from the beginning of their campaigns that support for Israel is no longer the only election key to the White House and that U.S. elections are now fought in more than one Eastern and Western capital.

The candidates have also realized that the Palestinian problem has begun to enter the ballot boxes in their cities and towns and that they must define their attitudes to it following the new positive turn the issue has taken in the past 5 years.

This is the reason they are silent and are avoiding discussing it. This is also the reason they are trying not to rely on the greedy Zionist votes which, if given to one of them, will turn him into their slave throughout his 4- or 8-year term. In other words, Zionism has to a great extent lost its attraction as an election key to be reckoned with.

There is another key now, namely the Middle East with all its countries and complex problems. It is no longer the Middle East whose borders Johnson and Nixon considered stopped at Tel Aviv.

Republican--previously Democratic--candidate Connally was probably the only one to raide the Palestinian issue at the beginning of his election campaign and include it in his nine-point program. Despite objections by many who accused him of being "hasty," Connally affirms that an improvement in U.S.-Arab relations is necessary and can be achieved through positive understanding of the number one Arab problem. What Connally says today was said before by Carter after his election and assumption of his constitutional powers.

Connally is well aware of the seriousness of his statements but he seems to insist on them. He will probably become the victim of his sound principles. This is quite likely because the American voter is not yet ready to get rid of the Zionist plague so quickly. He is also quick to forget the disasters brough upon him by leaders he trusted.

Whatever the case, Connally will not be the first victim if he fails. But if he wins the great fear will be the possibility of the presidency going to his head and therefore causing him to lose his balance.

YAR

MINISTER WELCOMES RETURN OF YEMENI JEWS FROM ISRAEL

LD180948 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0844 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--North Yemen Information Minister Yahya al-'Arashi said in a statement published here today that his country welcomes the return of all Yemeni Jews who emigrated to Israel after 1948.

Al-'Arashi told the Kuwaiti weekly AN-NAHDAH that officials in North Yemen are trying to encourage Yemeni Jews to return to Yemen, "where they will enjoy their full rights in our country."

INFORMATION MINISTER RETURNS FROM GULF TOUR 18 OCT

JN181731 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Oct 79 JN

[Text] Brother Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of information and culture, returned to San'a' this evening at the end of a tour during which he visited Kuwait, Bahrain, the UAE and Oman, and delivered messages from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to the heads of these fraternal states.

The minister of information and culture today delivered a written message to Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman from the president of the republic pertaining to the current Arab situation.

MENA REPORTS AS-SADAT RECEIVES ISRAELI AGRICULTURE MINISTER

NC181220 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1139 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 October--President Anwar as-Sadat received the visiting Israeli agriculture minister, Ari'el Sharon, at the Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah resthouse this morning. Egyptian Agriculture Minister Dr Mahmud Dawud attended the meeting.

Sharon arrived at the president's resthouse in Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah at 1130 today. President as-Sadat welcomed him and wished him a successful visit to Egypt. A discussion took place between President as-Sadat and Sharon. The president asked Sharon: Have you seen the land reclamation areas here? Sharon answered: I spent yesterday and part of today in Inshas. The president then asked: Have you visited At-Tahrir directorate? Dr Mahmud Dawud answered: He will do so after the interview with your excellency. The president then told Sharon: I want you to visit At-Tahrir directorate.

Sharon told the president jokingly: When you visited Jerusalem, your excellency said that you would like to get hold of me. The president answered: You did not wish us to visit Jerusalem at the time and we would have arrested you here. The president added: I always wanted to visit Jerusalem.

At this point, the time for snapping photographs ended and the president and Sharon began their meeting.

Cairo Radio on Meeting

NC181310 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] At 1030 today President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat received Israeli Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon, who is currently visiting the Arab Republic of Egypt. The meeting was attended by Agriculture Minister Dr Mahmud Dawud.

After the 75-minute meeting, Dr Mahmud Dawud stated that the discussion dealt with agricultural issues in the two countries.

Sharon said he is happy with his visit and with meeting President as-Sadat. He said that views were exchanged on general issues pertaining to relations between the two countries. He said: This is the first visit [of an Israeli official] which has no connection with the peace talks, but instead is connected with the implementation of peace itself, which we hope we will be in the interest of the countries of the region. He said: Emphasis was placed on cooperation between the two countries.

Asked about the possibility of cooperation between the two countries in the agricultural sphere, he said: I was surprised by the agricultural progress I have seen in Egypt. We are ready to learn from the achievements made by Egypt.

Asked about the settlements and whether he had discussed this subject with President as-Sadat, he said that President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin are pursuing the peace issue and every aspect of the Camp David agreement. The issue is not one of withdrawal but of the creation of full understanding among the states of the region.

MUSTAFA KHALIL GRANTS INTERVIEW TO CAIRO RADIO

NC172016 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1843 GMT 17 Oct 79 NC

[Cairo radio political affairs correspondent San'a as-Sa'id interview with Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil; date not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Your Excellency Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, what sort of political talks will you hold in Austria and Britain?

[Answer] The nature of the talks in Austria will differ from those in Britain. My talks in Austria with Chancellor Kreisky will be aimed at briefing him on the latest developments in the negotiations with the Israelis on establishing a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, particularly since he is to attend the Socialist International meeting. Chancellor Kreisky's efforts on behalf of the Palestine question are well known. We would like to brief him on our view on this. In Britain I will hold talks with Mr Robert Strauss, who has already participated in the negotiations. I will brief him on our view of the progress of the negotiations in the coming months, God willing. We will also review what has been achieved to date.

[Question] Your Excellency, do you believe that peace between Egypt and Israel is increasing gradually and strengthening despite the storms in the Middle East?

[Answer] Peace between Egypt and Israel is governed by the Camp David agreements and treaty. It is proceeding according to the agreement. We are determined to abide by the provisions of this agreement regarding both the establishment of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East and the implementation of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

[Question] Certain people maintain that there is no hope of reaching a solution quickly. Lack of momentum is inconsistent with repeated statements that problems will be solved quickly. What is your opinion? Do your visits to Austria and Britain have anything to do with a new momentum for the comprehensive peace process?

[Answer] I do not know why the term quick solution is mentioned. The negotiations are being conducted according to the timetable outlined in the exchanged letter regarding Gaza and the West Bank. We still have 6 months. The negotiations deal with different views and attempt to reconcile them. At this point we cannot say we have reached a deadlock. We can say there is a gap and differences in views, particularly regarding the issue of Jerusalem and the full autonomy powers in the West Bank and Gaza.

[Question] The division resulting from the treaty is still clouding relations between Egypt and the Arab world. The repeated Israeli statements are also weakening Egypt's attempts to convince the Arab front that Egypt's negotiating efforts have a real chance for success.

[Answer] Egypt is not responsible for the division that has occurred; the other Arab countries are. The Arab countries have offered no alternative to what Egypt has offered. We would have liked the Arab countries to offer help to solve the question or even practical alternatives that can be implemented, instead of rejection and division. However, regrettably we see nothing but rejection, avoidance and failure to offer anything to solve this problem. Therefore, those who began this division--the Arab countries--are responsible for the division.

As for the Israeli stand, we believe that the main obstacle is in fact the settlements. We have always declared our views on the settlements. We have also declared our views on the expansion of these settlements or the establishment of new ones. The West Bank and Gaza Strip are Arab land from which Israel must withdraw in accordance with UN resolutions. What Israel is doing now is contrary to international law, particularly the Geneva convention on the occupation of land by military forces. We will absolutely not recognize the West Bank as Judaea and Samaria. The Israelis must not mix the two main issues of Israeli security and expansion at the expenses of their Arab neighbors. We must not mix these two because security arrangements can be guaranteed for Israel, as in Sinai. Saying that land is a guarantee for security, the October War proved this groundless. Our view, which is outlined in the Camp David agreements, stresses the need to establish a full autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and to transfer the powers of the military rule and civilian administration to the Palestinian administration as soon as it is elected.

[Question] But, Mr Prime Minister, despite your numerous statements against these settlements and despite the statements issued by the United States and the European Community [EC] states, Israel is continuing its policy and resorting to various methods in pursuit of this policy.

[Answer] True, and we believe that by behaving like this, Israeli is casting doubt on its real intentions. At first Israel insisted that it wanted peace while the Arab states did not want peace. This claim has been disproved. Israel's second claim about its security, and its insistence that the occupation of territory was the only way to maintain this security, has also been disproved. Furthermore, ever since the time of Golda Meir Israel has not even recognized the existence of the Palestinian people. It has made various claims, such as its claim of an historic right to the West Bank and Gaza. Such claims cannot possibly be accepted. We cannot confuse the claims based on certain religious foundations of a certain religion with the present political reality, which is based on implementation of the UN resolutions to which Israel is committed. I believe that no matter how hard Israel tries, I am sure, I believe that the West Bank and Gaza are bound to achieve full autonomy as a step toward self-determination in the future.

[Question] The European Community feels that it has a direct role to play in the peace process. Can Europe play a supporting role in the peace process, and can Egyptian diplomacy unify the attitudes of the EC toward the Palestinians?

[Answer] You undoubtedly know that the European states have agreed on a minimum, which is recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The European states differ when it comes to details, each behaving in accordance with its interests in the region. This is the fact of the matter. We see that certain states recognize the PLO while other states have so far refrained from recognizing the PLO. In our opinion, the main issue is the cause of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian territory in the West Bank and Gaza. The European states are called upon to unify their policies. Public opinion in the Western states, as well as the governments and the circles that can influence decisions, should be shown that the essential objective is the establishment of full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza as a transitional phase leading to selfdetermination, which is a part of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people recognized by international bodies.

Such an attitude by the EC would undoubtedly help considerably because it would provide support for the U.S. position and the international position. I cannot see how Israel could ignore world opinion or the attitude of the U.S. Government and the European and socialist governments all over the world, and stand alone with its own interpretations of UN resolutions. It is now clear that they all reject these interpretations, which are not in harmony with international law and which are based on beliefs which no state or people can accept.

[Question] Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, as you move steadily toward the normalization of the relations with Israel, the state of official contacts in the field of joint cooperation between the two countries is open to speculation by political circles.

[Answer] There is actually some confusion regarding Egypt's attitude toward Israel or the present relations between Egypt and Israel. We still cannot say that relations have been normalized. According to the agreements, negotiations on the normalization of relations should begin within 6 months, 10 months after the exchange of the instruments of ratification. What has actually happened is that there has been a certain acceptance of Israeli vistors in accordance with a certain procedure agreed upon between the two countries. The aim is to make the public in Israel realize that, after the president's visit to Israel and the concerted efforts, it is better to live in peace and to have relations that inspire confidence in living in peace in the future. Here we face the fact that before the president's initiative the Israeli people lived under the canopy of the Israeli military establishment in all respects. These were the facts. Changing such methods and inclinations requires that they be given a feeling of confidence and hope of living in peace with neighboring states, and that they not base their lives on wars and expansion.

[Question] Does this mean that there are no Israeli businessmen [in Egypt] now and that there are no joint Israeli-Egyptian projects?

[Answer] So far there are no joint projects with Israel and so far no Israeli businessmen have come to negotiate any joint projects.

[Question] During the past few months, Gulf security has been and still is a topic of contacts because of the threats made by certain Iranian leaders. How do you view Gulf security?

[Answer] The vice president has expressed our views. We will absolutely not allow any aggression against the sovereignty of any Arab country. The Iranian threat to Bahrain was aimed at creating an internal coup by the Bahraini Shi'ites. We do not believe there will be external aggression. We believe that aggression will emerge from within to overthrow regimes. A new regime might declare that it would join Iran. Naturally, we respect the present legitimate authorities in these countries. Their excellencies the president and the vice president have declared Egypt's stand--Gulf security concerns the Gulf states and Egypt, if requested, is ready according to the joint Arab defense agreement to cooperate with Arab countries whose security might be endangered.

[Question] Regarding the economic situation, what does the government intend to do to control local problems, especially housing, soaring prices and the disappearance of certain commodities such as soap and cigarettes?

[Answer] As the president has said, we are undoubtedly waging a peace battle in the sense that all such things as the economic blockade and the cutoff of Arab aid have been experienced. Despite this, we have managed to achieve a high rate of development according to the IMF, not just the 9 percent rate we announced, which is a high rate. There have been no reductions or crises in supplies, except for what you mentioned, soap and cigarettes. There has been a shortage in soap production in the past 2 months. We are confronting this shortage. There has been a slight shortage of cigarettes due to the increase in the prices of foreign cigarettes, which caused an increase in the consumption of local cigarettes. In fact these are only two of thousands of commodities. When we say we are waging a battle of peace, we mean there have been other countries that have faced problems greater than ours. They faced disappearance of commodities more basic than cigarettes. Regrettably the people themselves bore the burden. We must wait and say that all commodities must be insured at prices that have nothing to do with world prices. We must not say we have nothing to do with the battle of peace or with anything else, and that it is the responsibility of the government to provide everything. Certainly it is the responsibility of the government, but the people must cooperate with the government in that they must not hoard supplies and buy too much. Our economic situation is promising, God willing. We said we are placing our country on the beginning of the road to prosperity. We never said that within a year of the battle of peace we will achieve prosperity. Prosperity can only be achieved by hard work and sweat. Prosperity can only be achieved through hard work and sincere work. As for the economic situation--and I am responsible for what I am saying--it is reasurring, because Egyptian resources in the years to come will increase. Our oil will increase. The oil income, the Suez Canal income and the tourism income will double. Production from our newly reclaimed land and factories will also increase. Concerning the open door policy I will quickly mention figures. Some 2.11 billion pounds have been invested in the open door policy companies. These include 655 projects. Out of the 2.11 billion pounds only 30 million were allocated to consumer projects. Consumer projects represent only 19 companies. Our open door policy is not consumer openness, but production and services openness. The companies we describe as consumers--can I say that a macaroni company is a consumer? It is providing the people with a basic commodity. The same applies to the canned food companies. Despite this I will submit complete reports to the People's Assembly on the open door policy. In this policy 2.11 billion pounds were invested to establish companies. Out of the 2.11 billion pounds, 57 percent of the capital is Egyptian. Our open door policy is being undertaken by Egyptians and it is not, as some say, for foreigners. The Arabs have a 25 percent interest and non-Arab foreigners 18 percent. These figures I am mentioning are proof of the government's policy. When the government guides consumption as outlined in the decision 600 to limit luxurious consumption it does so in the interest of the people. If certain people who are making profits from such imports will be harmed, I say their interests will not be harmed because they will be making a lower profit. The government is doing this in the public interest. Thank God, I maintain that our economy is based on sound foundations. There are, however, accumulations because all repairs in the infrastructure of services such as housing, water, sewage, communications and transportation were stopped because of successive wars and lack of funds. Faced now with accumulations of 30 years, we cannot solve the problems in 1 year. We would be making misleading statements to the public.

As we have done in the case of the telephone system, we are proposing an ambitious plan which cannot be submitted unless it specified the size of the problem--which has been done. Then it is financed completely and a practical program is drafted to solve it. We intend to do the same with regard to other problems such as housing, water, electricity, sewage treatment, hospitals, etc. We are saying this because the people must know that we are waging the battle of peace. Had it not been for the climate of peace we would not have been able to finance these ambitious plans we have proposed. As a government we do not want to make promises. I have never announced anything before achieving it. I will not make promises. I am presenting facts and ways to solve problems. If there is anyone with better ways to solve our problems, he is welcome to present them and we will be ready to carry them out.

Khalil Leaves for Austria

NC181230 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1205 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 October--Egyptian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil left Cairo this afternoon for Austria on the first leg of a 10-day tour that will also include Britain.

He was seen off at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister and National Socialist Party Secretary General Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, Minister of Planning Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid, Education Minister Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, Tourism Minister Dr Mahmud Amin 'Abd al-Hafiz, Minister of Manpower Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, Health Minister Dr Mamduh Jabr, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Cairo Airport Yunis al-Ansari.

GHALI SAYS EGYPT SUPPORTS LEBANESE, PALESTINIAN CAUSES

NC181515 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1436 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 October--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has reaffirmed Egypt's support for any conference or step which would lead to the achievement of security in Lebanon and which would preserve Lebanon's political independence, territorial integrity and national unity. Dr Ghali also emphasized Egypt's willingness to aid any step leading to this desired objective.

In his statement today, Dr Ghali announced that Egyptian diplomats have recently held new contacts for the sake of the Lebanese cause within the context of Egypt's continuing interest in the various Arab causes as well as the Lebanese cause.

Dr Ghali said that the greater part of the visits which Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil began today to Austria, and subsequently Britain, will be dedicated to contacts on the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. This is in keeping with Egypt's firm and constant principles on the Palestinian issue.

AUTONOMY TALKS SUBCOMMITTEES CONCLUDE WORK IN ALEXANDRIA

NC181350 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] The two subcommittees of the autonomy negotiations concluded their work in Alexandria today by drawing up a report on the committees' activities during this round of talks. It has been agreed to continue the discussion of subjects relating to the powers and jurisdictions of autonomy and electoral procedure at the next meeting of the two committees in Herzliyya during the first week of next month.

The heads of delegations will draft their reports on this session for submission to the meeting to be attended by Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg and head of the U.S. delegation Robert Strauss in London on 25 October. The heads of the subcommittees will also attend the meeting.

Our correspondent has learned that the London meeting will be devoted to the main political issues which will be raised by the autonomy committees and which aim at establishing full autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

JOINT EGYPTIAN-SAUDI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FORMED

NC181300 Cairo MENA in English 1240 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 October--An agreement was reached here today between the High Dam Company for Civil Works and a number of Saudi organizations for setting up an Egyptian-Saudi company to implement projects of building dams, reservoirs, bridges and major construction projects in Saudi Arabia, member of the Board of Directors of the High Dam Company Salah al-Hilali said.

He added that the capital of the Jidda-based company amounts to 25 million Saudi rials.

INTERIOR MINISTER WARNS AGAINST 'PUPPET MINORITY', OTHERS

NC161759 Cairo MENA in English 1751 GMT 16 Oct 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, Oct 16--(MENA)--Interior Minister Nabawi Isma'il called on the central security service today to check any move by the puppet minority, the rejectionist elements and the communists to split the home front.

The minister was addressing the graduation ceremony of 547 central security officers.

SUPPLY MINISTER CONFIRMS NO PRICE INCREASES PLANNED

NC182150 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] Minister of Supply Nasif Tahun has confirmed that there will be no increase in prices of any commodities and said that reports about this are only rumors.

Interior Minister Nabawi Isma'il has also confirmed that the police will strike against any attempt to exploit or tamper with prices or with the public interest. He said that new police stations will be established in the market areas as necessary and present police stations in other markets will be reinforced.

The two ministers made these statements at a meeting they held today with heads of the supply departments and members of the National Party and the parliamentary group in Jizah Governorate.

AL-AKHBAR: AL-ASAD VISIT WILL ENHANCE SOVIET INFLUENCE

LD180819 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 16 Oct 79 LD

[Ahmad Zayn article: "Al-Asad's Trip to Moscow"]

[Excerpts] What will Al-Asad tell the Kremlin leaders today as he arrives in Moscow amid trumpeting by the communist and the Syrian Ba'thist media about the importance of this visit?

Will the Soviet leaders suggest to him that he meet with Begin in Tashkent, as they suggested to President as-Sadat before, and would such a meeting be a nationalist action because an instrumental role had been played by the Soviet Union, which for 30 years has failed to offer a solution for the Palestinian problem and more than once, particularly during the October War, suggested to the Arabs that they surrender?

According to news agencies, Al-Asad will suggest to the Soviet Union the convening of an international conference to solve the Palestinian problem in which Moscow will participate. Moscow has had a million opportunities before to call for such a conference but has not done so and will not do so because its influence in the Middle East depends on the Palestinian problem remaining unsolved.

Will Al-Asad ask for modern weapons and, if so, who will absorb such weapons while the army and people in Syria are in turmoil over Al-Asad's rule?

Will the Soviet leaders risk giving Al-Asad such weapons, knowing that his position is very shaky in his country? And should Al-Asad obtain such weapons, will he use them against Israel or against the Syrian people and the Lebanese people? He needs to consolidate his rule and even more to consolidate his occupation of Lebanon. Both objectives need aid from the Soviet Union, whose policy is to impose rulers against the people's will with steel and fire, as it is doing in Afghanistan and Aden and has done in many African and Middle Eastern countries.

All that is being said about Al-Asad's trip to Moscow and its connection with the Middle East problem is merely intended to deceive this nation. We do not forget that when Israel attacked southern Lebanon and the Palestinians stood alone in the battle the Soviet ambassador in Beirut declared that the Soviet Union had nothing to do with the Palestinians, knew nothing about them and did not supply them with arms.

There is no doubt that if there is any significance in Al-Asad's trip to Moscow it is the attempt to enhance Soviet influence in the Arabian Peninsula and to tighten the circle around the oil countries so they will gradually fall under Soviet influence. This is the plan that Moscow has been trying to implement in the past few years. It has set up a base in Aden and another in Ethiopia. It had a base in Somalia. It is now trying to infiltrate the Red Sea area with the help of fixed bases where Soviet forces and aircraft manned by Soviet pilots are based. Moscow is trying to get closer to the oil regions through a plan aimed at creating difficulties and disturbances in those countries, which are not aware of what is happening. These countries have fallen victim to Soviet lies, which Syria is helping to spread among the rulers and kings of the area by creating imaginary differences so they will be isolated from Egypt and thus fall prey to Soviet influence.

There is no doubt also that Al-Asad will ask Moscow for domestic support to enable him to suppress the rebellious people and army both in Syria and Lebanon and to consolidate his rule in return for greater Soviet influence in the Arabian Peninsula. This deal will be concluded because it is in the interest of both parties.

YAR ENVOY ARRIVES IN AMMAN WITH MESSAGE FOR HUSAYN

JN171718 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Oct 79 JN

[Text] At the Royal Hashemite Court this evening, His Majesty King Husayn received YAR Economy Minister Muhammad Hizam Shuhati, who conveyed a message to his majesty from YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih dealing with the current Arab situation and bilateral relations.

Industry Minister Meets Envoy

JN171720 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Oct 79 JN

[Text] Industry and Trade Minister Dr Najm ad-Din ad-Dajani and YAR Economy Minister Muhammad Hizam Shuhati, who is currently visiting Jordan, today discussed bilateral economic relations and ways to strengthen and promote these relations.

CROWN PRINCE RECEIVES BRITAIN'S CALLAGHAN

JN171257 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Oct 79 JN

[Text] This morning Crown Prince Hasan received former British Prime Minister and Labor Party leader James Callaghan. The meeting dealt with Israel's daily actions, which are part of a planned policy aimed at deporting the indigenous population and intensifying the Israeli settlements on the pretext of alleged security.

The crown prince explained to Mr Callaghan that these measures are a large impediment to the achievement of a just and lasting solution to the conflict in the area.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Mr Callaghan also discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian issue and the situation in the Middle East and southern Lebanon. The prime minister acquainted Mr Callaghan with the progress made in economic and social plans. The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim and the British ambassador in Amman.

Callaghan Press Conference, Departure

JN181351 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Oct 79 JN

[Text] James Callaghan, former British prime minister and Labor Party leader, left Amman at noon today following an official 3-day visit to Jordan during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn, Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran and several high-ranking officials. Callaghan was seen off at the airport by 'Amir Khammash, the court minister; representatives of the Foreign Ministry; and the British ambassador in Amman.

Callaghan held a press conference at his residence prior to his departure, in which he said that expropriating lands does not guarantee security and stability. Callaghan added that expanding Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories does not serve the efforts being exerted to achieve peace in the region.

Callaghan stated that a just and comprehensive peace cannot be achieved in the region without the participation of the disputing sides. Substantiating his argument, Callaghan cited a passage from King Husayn's UN speech in which his majesty said: Peace and the region's future cannot be secured without the participation of all sides concerned. The circumstances for achieving peace in the region are more favorable now than ever before.

Callaghan praised his meetings with His Majesty King Husayn, Crown Prince Hasan and Prime Minister Mudar Badran, adding that his meetings with top Jordanian officials were candid and useful. Callaghan also praised the economic developments achieved by Jordan in all fields, especially in developing the Jordan Valley and meeting the kingdom's needs for water, adding that the Jordanian Government shows great concern over this issue. At this point, Callaghan pointed to the possibility of the British Government aiding Jordan in financing and implementing several development projects.

Referring to his visit to one of the refugee camps, Callaghan said that this visit made it possible for him to acquaint himself with the difficult circumstances which the refugees are living in. Callaghan praised the Jordanian Government's and UNRWA's valuable aid to and concern over the refugee camps. Callaghan added that the Palestinian refugees long to return to their homeland and that this will only be achieved when a just and comprehensive peace is achieved in the region.

Callaghan said that he believed that the Camp David accords pave the way for achieving peace in the region, adding that peace cannot be achieved unless calm dialog is conducted between the sides concerned. Callaghan expressed reservations with regard to any talks conducted between Britain and the PLO

MINISTER ATTACKS ISRAELI DECISION TO EXPAND SETTLEMENTS

JN171510 Amman JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Oct 79 JN

[Excerpts] Amman, 17 October--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim has stated that the Israeli Government's decision to expand settlements in the occupied Arab territories and allow Israelis to buy Arab land is fresh proof of Israel's expansionist and aggressive policy confirming the falsehood of its alleged desire for the establishment of peace in the region.

Hasan Ibrahim added: The Israeli Government's decisions are another proof of Israel's disregard and defiance of UN Security Council resolutions and world public opinion that reject this policy and practices.

Mr Ibrahim explained that the Foreign Ministry has asked its permanent UN delegate to hold contacts with the UN secretary general and the UN Security Council president, in cooperation with the Arab and Islamic groups and the nonalined countries, to explain the grave dimensions of these decisions and adopt measures to halt them.

AMMAN DAILIES CRITICIZE ISRAELI SETTLEMENT EXPANSION

JN150743 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 15 Oct 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the Israeli Cabinet decisions to expand the settlements, AR-RA'Y writes: Yesterday the Israeli Cabinet decided to expand settlements in the West Bank, thereby brandishing anew the weapon of challenge against the international community, which has and continues to denounce the policy of settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

The Israeli decision is a gift to the Egyptian negotiator, who continues to act haphazardly in the self-rule talks and to entertain dreams that other Arab parties will join the capitulatory Camp David march.

The Israeli decision reminds us of Moshe Dayan's recent statement praising and defending President Carter's administration, because it has never criticized Israel's practices.

The paper adds: Current developments in the West Bank require that the Arabs expedite the drafting of a formula for unified Arab action on the international arena to curb Israel's measures and to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the area.

Commenting on the same subject, AD-DUSTUR writes: We cannot understand the goals behind the Israeli Government's decision holding that the confiscated land is government land and not privately owned. In any event, the land will continue to belong to the Arabs.

We also wonder why the U.S. administration welcomed the Israeli Government's decision to expand the seven settlements, as this decision constitutes a blatant violation of the 1949 Geneva Convention and the UN principles and charter.

The U.S. Republican presidential candidate's statement to the effect that Israel cannot survive without U.S. military and economic support is an incentive that encourages Israel to proceed with its policy of expansion and to use U.S. arms to tame the Arab countries and to impose fait accompli solution.

It is worth mentioning here that the theory that says that a strong Israel is a guarantee for peace has definitely collapsed, now that Israel has demonstrated to the world that a stronger Israel means that its aggressive and expansionist intentions are intensified. Despite this, Washington continues to sympathize with this theory, thus helping Israel to proceed with its aggression and expansion.

The Arabs' silence over this unprecedented imperialist equation is a pan-Arab tragedy, because the Zionist epidemic that is now gnawing the occupied Arab land would, without a radical remedy, enable the Zionist military establishment to transfer the cancerous epidemic to other Arab areas.

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES PROBLEM OF SOUTH

NC181540 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus has held a press conference and answered questions. Concerning the entry of the Lebanese Army into the south prior to or after the Arab summit, Mr Butrus said: It would be better for the army to enter the south when circumstances become more favorable, regardless of the Arab summit, because the summit will deal with more comprehensive matters.

Concerning the convocation date of the summit, the foreign minister said: Something definite will be announced within the next 24 hours.

Regarding a Lebanese proposal on the south which was submitted to the UN Secretariat, Mr Butrus replied: The UN Secretariat, Lebanon and some of the parties concerned with the south are studying a plan aimed at insuring the implementation of Resolution 425. Naturally, a plan dealing with this subject is included in this framework. It would be preferable to conclude our studies as soon as possible. However, we must [not] sacrifice the goals for the sake of expediting matters.

Asked whether President Giscard 'Estaing's statement on southern Lebanon made to the French Cabinet yesterday indicates the existence of a specific French plan in this respect, Mr Butrus said: France is interested in the subject of southern Lebanon and is playing a diplomatic role to facilitate the drawing up and implementation of the plan. There is more than one proof of this.

BEIRUT RADIO REPORTS ISRAELI SHELLING IN SOUTH

NC181922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] The correspondent of the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY in the south reports that Burj Ash-Shamali camp and the adjacent areas, as well as (Ash-Shabrihah) quarter, were subjected to concentrated Israeli shelling. The shelling started at 1905 and continued until 1935. There are no reports as yet on casualties and damages.

Further Reportage

NC182122 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] According to reports arriving from the An-Nabatiyah area, Israeli forces this evening shelled Arnun Castle with heavy artillery, mortars and tanks. The shelling later spread to An-Nabatiyah. The shelling stopped at 2100 today.

VOICE OF HOPE REPORTS 18 OCT CLASH WITH TERRORISTS IN SOUTH

NC190725 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0630 GMT 19 Oct 79 NC

[Text] On 18 October at around 1600, a Free Lebanon army unit came under fire from the terrorists at Arnun Castle while on a routine patrol to the Al-Khardali bridge. Our forces returned fire.

A short time later, the terrorists widened the scope of their aggression and shelled the villages of Dayr Mimas and Al-Khirbah, escalating it even further later when they shelled Al-Qulay'ah and Marj 'Uyun. They used various types of weapons, including heavy machineguns, mortars, rockets and artillery. Our forces returned their fire. This exchange of fire continued until 0100 on 19 October. Our loss of life was nil, thank God; only material damage was caused. The aggressors' losses are still unknown.

VOICE OF HOPE: ARMY BATTALION TO BE SENT TO MARJ 'UYUN

NC181503 Marj 'Uyun Voice of Hope in Arabic 1445 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, we have just received the following important item:

A spokesman of the Free Lebanese forces has stated that in the wake of the successful negotiations between the command of the Lebanese forces and the command of the Lebanese army, an agreement has been reached under which an infantry battalion supported by two AMX-13 tanks and two 128mm caliber guns will be dispatched to the Marj 'Uyun area to safeguard security in the area. The appropriate arrangements are now under way to prepare the Marj 'Uyun barracks to receive these forces. Patrols are being sent to Al-Khardali to insure safe passage for these forces. These forces are expected to arrive in Marj 'Uyun within the next 2 weeks at the latest. These forces will be accompanied by two UN observer vehicles: one leading at the front and one bringing up the rear.

VOL: LEBANESE FRONT ISSUES POLICY STATEMENT

NC181150 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 16 Oct 79 NC

[Text] A statement issued by the Lebanese Front today concentrates on political, security, judicial and economic affairs. It reviews the Front's stance vis-a-vis the government and regional and international charters. It demands the withdrawal of armed Syrians and Palestinians from Lebanon, the regulation of the diplomatic relations between Lebanon and Syria and termination of the deterrent forces mandate.

The statement deals with the question of the south and the need to defend every inch of Lebanese territory. It also deals with other current and future issues. In its statement, the Front stresses the need to continue its steadfestness and to safeguard Lebanon. It rejects the accusation that it is against legitimacy, saying legitimacy would not have existed without it. The Front says that the era of promises has ended and that it is time to return to the obligations of the charters which should be respected to guarantee Lebanon's sovereignty, freedom and independence or else Lebanon would be entitled to follow the road leading to neutrality.

The Front declares in its statement that in order for the whole of Lebanon to belong to all, everybody must work with equal loyalty. It calls for the elimination of the major causes of the war--foremost the Palestinian and Syrian presence.

In its statement, the Front considers the government's policy to be one that assumes the burdens of rule but does not rule. Evidence of this, the Front says, is the government's position on the army law and the officers promotion. The Front considers this position and the current begging to permit the army to reach the south as the spearhead planted in the heart of the army to destroy it.

The Front reaffirms its rejection of the [Palestinians] settlement and all its formulas. Quoting what Foreign Minister Butrus said in his speech at the United Nations regarding the south, the Front says that the defense of the south is a Lebanese responsibilty but its rescue is an international responsibilty.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD RETURNS FROM USSR VISIT 18 OCT

JN181303 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Oct 79 JN

[Excerpt] President Hafiz al-Asad returned home from Yerevan, the capital of Soviet Armenia, at 1145 today after a 4-day visit to the Soviet Union. During the visit he held talks with the Soviet leaders which were considered one of the most important talks to take place between the Syrian and the Soviet leaderships in recent years.

The delegation accompanying the president also returned home.

Sends Cable to Kosygin

JN181441 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Oct 79 JN

[Excerpt] At the end of his visit to the USSR President Hafiz al-Asad has sent the following cable to Aleksey Kosygin:

Comrade Aleksey Kosygin, prime minister, the Soviet Union:

Upon departure from the Soviet Union at the end of our visit to your friendly country, it pleases me to express our abundant thanks for the warm welcome we were accorded during our stay.

The talks which have been concluded during this visit and the identity of views on all the subjects discussed have played a new and important role in strengthening the firm relations between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Soviet Union and in supporting our peoples' joint struggle and our governments' joint efforts in all fields. I am certain that the relations between the two countries will continue to successfully progress in the future.

It pleases me to express our best wishes for your health and happiness, continued success for the Soviet leadership, and prosperity and further achievements for the Soviet Union's peoples.

[Signed] Hafiz al-Asad, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party secretary general, president of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Damascus Radio on Visit

JN181903 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Oct 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Following President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Moscow and his talks with the Soviet leaders, an important question is posed. The answer to this question has a great effect on current events and developments relating not only to relations between Syria and the Soviet Union but to the political and military situation in the region. The question can be put in the following form: What are the facts and the results of the talks and what are their present and future bearing on the political situation?

After concluding his talks with the Soviet leaders, President al-Asad said: For many years everyone has understood the Soviet Union's concern with the issue of a just peace in our region. It is a concern which stems from the Soviet peoples' suffering and experience and from their commitment to support the cause of freedom, justice and peace all over the world.

It also stems from the firm relations which link Syria and the Soviet Union and which are based on mutual respect and struggle against aggression, oppression and exploitation in every part of the world.

In light of these relations of friendship and cooperation based on the joint struggle against the forces and parties of the imperialist camp and in view of the need to strengthen these relations in order to guarantee the continuation of the Arab struggle, the talks achieved positive and constructive results. President al-Asad said they are the most successful talks to be held with the Soviet leaders. They have strengthened Syrian and Soviet cooperation and enhanced our joint efforts for international detente and just peace, the president added.

From this solid background of the talks numerous facts have ensued to confirm the present requirements and our role in formulating future action. These facts are:

1. Agreement on the importance of strengthening joint Arab work and the international role which supports our cause at international conferences and organizations.

2. Work to isolate the Camp David policy in order to foil it because a just and permanent peace will not be possible without the collapse of this policy and its parties. [as heard]

3. The Soviet Union's stand by the Arab struggle and its nucleus represented in Syria and the need to support Syria in all fields, because it forms the real and basic foundation for Arab steadfastness.

There is no doubt that President Hafiz al-Asad's talks with the Soviet leaders have indeed contributed new support for bilateral relations and for the causes that we defend and believe in.

VOL REPORTS FOUR POLICEMEN KILLED IN CLASHES

NC190806 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 19 Oct 79 NC

[Text] Syrian authorities have denied reports by some television stations abroad that two senior persons who were active in the social field have been assassinated.

In the meantime, we have received reports confirming that armed clashes took place near the Justice Palace in Damascus on Wednesday afternoon. The clashes lasted from 1400 to 1900 and spread to the Al-Hamidiyah Market, Al-Hurayqah and Midhat Basha street. Four members of the Police Intelligence Bureau were killed and there were 20 civilian casualties.

ALGERIA

FOREIGN MINISTRY DELEGATION LEAVES FOR MOSCOW 17 OCT

LD181102 Algiers Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Mr Driss Djezairi, the interim secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, left Algiers yesterday for Moscow. In Moscow he is to make preparations for a meeting, (?the fifth), of the permanent Algerian-Soviet intergovernmental commission. The meeting will be held in Algiers in November. Mr Djezairi, who is vice president of this commission, is accompanied by a large delegation composed of representatives of various sectors of the economy.

MAURITANIA

MALI'S TRAORE ARRIVES IN NOUAKCHOTT, TALKS TO NEWSMEN

AB181505 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 18 Oct 79 AB

[Excerpts] The president of the republic arrived in Nouakchott 2 hours ago. Gen Moussa Traore's arrival was followed by those of Presidents Senghor and Lamizana. Gen Moussa Traore will attend the fifth summit meeting of the heads of state of the West African Economic Community [CEAO].

On his arrival in Nouakchott, President Moussa Traore answered questions put to him by Mauritanian newsmen. The first question was on his opinion of the topics to be discussed at the Nouakchott summit. The following is his reply: [begin recording]

[Traore] First, I would like to thank by brother and friend, president of the Military Committee of National Safety and the prime minister, for the warm and brotherly welcome which has just been given to me and to my delegation. You remember that just a year ago, important decisions were made in Bamako, particularly concerning the free movement of people and property between the different countries of the community. During our Nouakchott meeting, we will take stock of the situation [passage indistinct] which means the implementation of our projects. [end recording]

[Question] What do you think, Mr President, of the nonaggression and defense pact that the CEAO wants to set up?

[Traore] You know that in 1977 we discussed this issue and later on committee meetings were held in Ouagadougou and Nouakchott successively. On this occasion, we will examine the documents prepared by experts and by the Council of Ministers in order to find a definite solution to the problem of defense within the West African Economic Community. [end recording]

MOROCCO

AL-'ALAM URGES SHIFTING SAHARA WAR TO ALGERIAN TERRITORY

LD181107 Rabat AL-'ALAM in Arabic 11 Oct 79 pp 1, 3 LD

['Abd al-Karim Ghallab article: "The Lessons That We Must Learn in Our Sahara Battle"]

[Excerpt] In the past Britain was victorious; it built and expanded its empire and conquered nations because it fought outside its own territories. But the day its people tasted the calamities of war it stopped attacking others.

This is probably the principle that Algeria is adopting today. It is fighting with soldiers not belonging to its own people. Those being recruited to fight in the Western Sahara are Mauritanians, Moroccans and probably Saharans belonging to other peoples adjacent to the Sahara. Algeria has recruited them and sent them to the Sahara in the hope of achieving victory and expansion that would begin with the Sahara and extend to the rest of the Maghreb. Therefore, it is fighting outside its own territories, trying to destroy towns and villages extending from Smara to (al-Zak) and Bouirat and attacking military and civilians with men not belonging to its own people. It is also probably preserving its own arms and fighting with the arms of others (Libyan and Cuban arms, for example).

If we wish to stop this aggression and this attrition of which we are the victim, we must shift the war to inside Algeria, just as Germany shifted the war to inside the British Isles, so that Algerian officials will feel that they are paying a heavy price. We will then force them to stop their aggression, just as Britain was forced to stop aggression when the war was shifted to its territories.

If we do not do this the war of attrition will continue and Morocco will continue to pay the price, particularly in a field in which defense is difficult while attack is easy.

The Saharan citizens are prepared to defend their country if they are recruited to carry out their national duty in the land which Algeria is controlling, for this is their land and it is inhabited by their brothers and neighbors. The best method of defense is to engage the enemy in his own home.

AL-MUHARRIR CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT'S LABOR POLICY

LD181531 Casablanca AL-MUHARRIR in Arabic 14-15 Oct 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "The Fallacy of the One-Sided 'Social Peace'"]

[Excerpts] With the return to school and the reopening of parliament, talk about peace has once again become the number one topic in the statements of semiofficial government spokesmen. And since the question of social peace is of interest to the masses in general and the working class in particular, it is necessary to dot the i's and expose the fallaciousness of what is being propagated.

The fact of the matter is that nobody can impose a one-sided social peace whose victims would be the masses of workers and toilers and people with low incomes while the fortunate ones continue to wage an exploitationist class war, sometimes with the connivance of the administration and at other times with its encouragement. This means that the party that should stop its war against the toiling masses is the exploitationist class, the administration and even the government itself.

The employers that are dismissing employees, defying the laws, freezing wages and evading the payment of compensation are the ones undermining the basis of social peace. The administrative machinery agrees with these people in their objectives when it uses government means not for protecting the law and safeguarding rights, but for the protection of the people with privileges and vested interests, the greedy faction whose aim is to exploit the sweat and efforts of workers as well as to plunder the state through tax evasion.

It is the government, which is supposed to be equal to the present conditions, that is setting the example in stirring up class struggle and failing to respect the wage scale. In fact the government's dismissal of 1,500 teachers and health employees not only encouraged the employers but has also set a serious precedent the like of which the history of the trade union struggle in Morocco has not see, not even during colonialist days.

The conditions of our country as it faces an aggressive war call for a comprehensive and effective popular mobilization. But is it possible to launch such a mobilization without insisting on the need to put an end to plundering and exploitation and the cessation of economic and political coercion?

As far as the toiling masses are concerned, they have often proved their readiness to offer sacrifices for the sake of higher national interests. But the thing they refuse to accept is the attempt by the fortunate class to evade shouldering a share of the sacrifices proportional to its size and wealth under the pretext of the demand for social peace. Action like this will not indeed mean social peace in the real and objective sense but rather will be a further indulgence in waging class war by the bourgeoisie and the landlords against the working masses. Apparently this is what is meant by the renewed talk about the one-sided social peace. Expecting something without providing the objective conditions for it is a miscalculation and a blatant fallacy that will not deceive the conscious Moroccan people.

SUDAN

EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT'S OFFICE CHIEF ARRIVES 17 OCT

JN181103 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1240 GMT 18 Oct 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum. 18 October--Hasan Kamil, chief of the president's office, arrived here last night. He was received by Izz ad-Din Hamid, Sudanese minister of state for Egyptian affairs, and Sa'd Muhammad Badawi al-Fatatri, the Egyptian ambassador to Sudan. Hasan Kamil will leave Sudan for Somalia today to participate in its celebrations marking the October Revolution anniversary.

TUNISIA

FATAH'S ABU MAZIN ARRIVES ON VISIT TO TUNIS

LD190516 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] This evening, Mahmud 'Abbas, Abu Mazin, member of the Central Committee of Fatah, arrived in Tunis for a visit lasting several days. On arrival, Abu Mazin expressed the hope of meeting the secretary general of the Arab League to discuss with him matters of importance to the Arab world. He was welcomed at Tunis Carthage International Airport by Munsif Salamih, in charge of foreign relations in the party administration, and Hasan Bal'awi, PLO representative in Tunis.

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM AUTONOMY TALKS IN ALEXANDRIA

TA181851 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1710 GMT 18 Oct 79 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, 18 Oct--The Israeli delegation to the two working teams on the autonomy returned this afternoon from Alexandria, and has reported on its 4-day talks to the director general of the Interior Ministry, Mr Hayim Kubersky, who heads the autonomy talks headquarters.

The members of the delegation--Prof Rut Lapidot, Mrs Yehudit Hubner, attorney Avraham Shafat, Mr Ehud Shilat and Lt Col Tzadoq Qara'im--reported on the deliberations of the two working teams and noted the good atmosphere that prevailed and the businesslike efforts that characterized the talks. The Israeli representatives emphasized in their reports that contrary to reports in the Egyptian press, there were no clashes between the Egyptian and Israeli delegations, and no stalemate was created. They also said that there was no connection between the reports by the Egyptian media and what had actually happened and what was said during the deliberations of the working teams.

The Israeli representatives reported that further progress has been made in the deliberations of the working team on the election procedures, and that the working team on the authorities and responsibilities had conducted a thorough examination in an attempt to find authorized, constructive ways of holding a detailed debate on the issues with which this working group is dealing.

A detailed report on this round of talks in the working teams has been transferred to the members of the Ministerial Committee for Autonomy Affairs. The next round of autonomy talks will be held from 6 to 9 November in Israel, and then from 20 to 23 November in Alexandria.

BURG COMMENTS ON TOPICS FOR UPCOMING LONDON TALKS

TA181755 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1630 GMT 18 Oct 79 TA

[Text] Tel Aviv, 18 Oct--Interior and Police Minister Dr Yosef Burg said this evening that among the subjects which will be discussed in the next few days in London between the heads of the Egyptian, Israeli and U.S. delegations will be the conflicting interpretations by the various parties of the settlement issue. An attempt will be made to overcome the differences of opinion. Minister Burg was commenting on Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil's criticism of Israel's settlement policy.

Dr Burg, who is the chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Autonomy Affairs, was speaking at the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce meeting. He said that Israel's interpretation of the settlement clause in the Camp David accord is that there would not be any settlement activity for 3 months, "and this we have fulfilled." We have not promised anything beyond that, but we must say this again to all the parties concerned.

Dr Burg said that the different interpretations of the Camp David accords on this matter result from the parties' different positions, which have also been expressed in the deliberations which preceded the Camp David agreements. It is to be assumed that in the London talks Dr Khalil will demand that the Egyptian interpretation be accepted. However, Dr Burg emphasized, one party's interpretation does not bind the other party.

He said that he is in favor of increasing the number of settlements in Judaea and Samaria as one means of preventing partition within Eretz Yisra'el. Mr Burg said that in the London deliberations, issues like oil and the timetable for withdrawal from the Sinai as well as other problems will be discussed. Efforts are being made to conduct the talks "on a low key."

At the same time, Dr Burg added that he would emphasize to the Egyptian prime minister that peace is not an indecent word. There is the impression, he added, that the Egyptian press is not attempting to imprint on the Egyptian public any favorable attitude toward peace. "I shall point out to the members of the Egyptian delegation that a peace treaty has been signed, but peace itself is made through incessant activity and cannot persist without cooperation between the parties."

At the beginning of his speech, the interior minister referred to the statements of the Republican presidential hopeful, John Connally, and said that his statements concerning Israel are grave, especially since they "had been scrutinized by Henry Kissinger and King Husayn." Mr Burg recalled that Connally mentioned three things: That Israel must withdraw from conquered territories, that it must give up the administration of East Jerusalem and that it must agree to the establishment of a Palestinian state. All these, Burg said, would, according to Connally, not guarantee Israel's status, but would insure oil supplies to the West. Mr Burg said that these statements are especially severe because it appears that they represent the positions of important U.S. elements.

He objected to the use of the expression "conquered land" in refering to Judaea and Samaria, claiming that that territory had been conquered by Transjordan, which was later called Jordan, whereas we reconquered it and reunited Jerusalem. Mr Burg said that in the bitter argument on this matter, Israel did not make it clear who conquered the West Bank and Jerusalem and who annulled that conquest. Concerning the rule over Jerusalem, Dr Burg recalled that Jerusalem is mentioned 700 times in the Bible, whereas it does not appear even once in the Koran.

Reaction to Khalil Statements

TA182015 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Oct 79 TA

[Text] In a special interview with the Mabat program, the chairman of the ministerial committee for autonomy affairs, Minister Yosef Burg, rejected Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil's proposal to hold an additional summit between the Egyptian and U.S. Presidents and the Israeli prime minister. Political sources have told our political correspondent today that they see no harm in the Egyptian prime minister's statement that there is still no normalization in the relations between Israel and Egypt because, according to the timetable set up in the Camp David accords, such relations would only be established after ambassadors are exchanged between the two countries. Our correspondent on party affairs, Nisim Mishal, talked with Minister Burg today: [begin videotape]

[Question] Have the working teams which have returned from Egypt given you an optimistic report on the Egyptian position?

[Answer] I shun the use of the word optimistic. I have always been in favor of the term "realistic." We have reached a mutual understanding on some details, but we differ on principles. I assume the way to overcome the basic differences of opinion is to leave them and see what practical steps can be taken to advance the issue of the autonomy elections so that we will be able to live together in this region.

[Question] Has any progress been made in the talks?

[Answer] Yes, definitely, but I cannot elaborate at this stage.

[Question] Dr Burg, Dr Khalil declared yesterday that in fact there is no normalization in the Israeli-Egyptian relations. What do you think?

[Answer] I think that if such declarations are frequently made, they will start to be very true. Normalization, like peace, is something which has to be built up, and at least two--if not more--parties are involved in this. It seems to me that if Dr Khalil, whom I deeply respect, found it necessary to say this, he probably thinks that it is good as background music for the London meeting. I think the Egyptian press should be nourished by the gospel of peace rather than by emphasis on things that have not yet become normal.

[Question] Dr Khalil is accusing Israel of violating agreements, and he cites as proof the expansion of the settlements. What is your view of this?

[Answer] My view is simple: I would like to see where it says that we have promised not to expand settlements.

[Question] In the Camp David accords, for example.

[Answer] In the Camp David accords there was such a demand, but Prime Minister Menahem Begin agreed to do so for 3 months, no more. This was stated from the Knesset podium, it is well known. Anything you agree not to do for 3 months means that it does not apply to 4 months. That is to say that there is no agreement binding Israel. [end videotape]

Comments on Cabinet Predicament

TA181423 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 18 Oct 79 TA

[Text] Minister Yosef Burg says that the predicament of the current Cabinet's future will become clearer in 2 months. By then it will be possible to know whether there will be early elections or a Cabinet reshuffle. He was speaking at the Israel-America Chamber of Commerce.

As for the talks with the Egyptians, he said that in the upcoming meeting with the Egyptian prime minister in London, he will tell his counterpart that the Egyptian press is not doing enough to imprint the peace treaty on the Egyptian public. Burg believes that, in effect, the Egyptian press is ignoring the agreement and that makes the normalization process more difficult.

BEGIN MAKES STATEMENT ON ASSISTANCE TO CAMBODIA

TA181126 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0945 GMT 18 Oct 79 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, 18 Oct--Prime Minister Menahem Begin made the following statement on aid to Cambodia in a program broadcast on IDF Radio:

Humanity is familiar to us, humanity is very close to us. This is how we treated the Vietnamese refugees when, in fact, we were among the first to initiate their arrival in our country. As is known, we brought over two groups of Vietnamese refugees, and another group will soon be given shelter in our country.

A great tragedy is now taking place in Asia involving the Cambodian people, who have suffered greatly. The problem is not one of refugees setting out to sea and risking their lives. The problem is: There are 2 million Cambodians who are poor and hungry. Some of them are starving to death, and that is why we should assist them.

In the meantime, we have organized five groups of doctors and nurses who are ready to leave for Cambodia when the rulers of that country permit it. The Foreign Ministry has instructed our ambassador to Thailand to do his best to obtain approval for any sort of aid we may be able to extend to the suffering Cambodian nation.

We also asked to receive details on the kind of assistance required, such as food, tents and blankets. We have also contacted the international committee in Geneva which gave us help concerning the Vietnamese refugees, with positive results. We have also informed them about Israel's readiness to extend its help to solve this human tragedy. We have asked them to inform us, based on the data in their possession, how we can actually extend our aid. If mankind extends its help as we did regarding the Vietnamese refugees, without any petty calculations, if each nation undertakes to give its share, these people can be saved--this is our hope. Undoubtedly, Israel will be one of the first countries to do its share. I want to express my hope that other nations follow suit and thus save the Cambodian people.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TO REMAIN IN HOSPITAL 10 DAYS

TA181615 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 18 Oct 79 TA

[Text] The deputy prime minister's condition is good, but he will remain in hospital at least 10 more days. This was stated by his physicians at a news conference held today at the Mt Scopus Hadassah Hospital. Prof Ya'aqov Menczel, the head of the internal department, stated that the deputy prime minister will be able to return to full and normal activity, and that no limitations will be imposed on his activity. For the moment, no visits are allowed, but as of the beginning of next week the patient will be permitted to receive guests, pending the approval of his physicians.

SHAY ACCUSES SHARON OF 'MISLEADING' KNESSET

TA181815 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 18 Oct 79 TA

[Text] The Shay faction has asked the prime minister and the Knesset speaker to check whether or not Minister Ari'el Sharon misled the Knesset in his briefing. The Shay members claim that Minister Sharon's statement in the Knesset, in which he said that the decision to establish Elon More was made by the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs at the end of 1977, was wrong. The Shay faction, which was a member of the coalition at the time, maintains that no such decision had been made and that, therefore, the information Sharon provided the Knesset does not represent the truth.

HERUT SPOKESMAN ON LABOR CHARGES AGAINST SHARON

TA181858 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Oct 79 TA

[Text] The Herut Movement spokesman has reacted to the Labor Party's statement by saying that Minister Sharon had not called for violation of the law, and that the statements made against the agriculture minister are libel. The Labor Party said this morning that Minister Sharon is not worthy of serving in the Israeli Cabinet because he has been misleading the Cabinet by misinforming it and by operating behind its back and countering its decisions.

The Herut Movement spokesman has said that such publications, issued while Minister Sharon is on a national mission in Egypt, is proof that the Labor Party lacks a sense of national responsibility.

MK Shulamit Alloni said this evening that Minister Sharon is a shadow government within the legal Cabinet. The agriculture minister is lending a hand to private armies of the extreme right which try to torpedo the peace agreements and are taking the law into their hands.

SHARON, EGYPTIANS DIFFER ON JOINT AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

TA181419 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 18 Oct 79 TA

[Text] At the end of his talks in Cairo, Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon said that Israel and Egypt have decided to examine possibilities for agricultural cooperation. Egyptian officials, however, have expressed themselves more reservedly, saying that their country would prefer to hold off joint agricultural projects until after the normalization of relations between the two countries is well established. Minister Sharon was speaking at the end of a meeting with President as-Sadat at the (Baraj) Palace north of Cairo. He refused to reply to reporters' questions on the settlement issue or the Israeli Cabinet's decision to expand seven settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

MILITARY BLOWS UP 'TERRORIST' BUILDINGS IN RAFAH

TA160830 Jeruslam Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 16 Oct 79 TA

[Text] This morning the Gaza Strip military authorities blew up three buildings in the Rafah District which belong to members of the terrorist group that murdered soldier David Shamir about 9 months ago. Shamir was murdered by terrorists belonging to the Arab Liberation Front, and was buried in a Rafah cemetery. Shamir's documents were delivered to the command of the terrorist organization which boasted of having captured him.

IDF VIEWS RENEWED TERRORIST ACTIVITIES IN S. LEBANON

TA171104 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Oct 79 p 2 TA

[By military correspondent]

[Text] Senior IDF elements regard with gravity the renewed terrorist activities in southern Lebanon. The IDF elements noted that in the past as well, every time they were badly attacked, the terrorists undertook to maintain the cease-fire and, under its aegis, reorganized their ranks until they felt sufficiently secure, and then began a new cycle of hostilities.

As is known, the terrorists attacked Major Sa'd Haddad's militias in the area of the Al-Kardali Bridge with machineguns, mortars and bazookas on Monday. They also opened fire at Al-Qulay'ah and Tall Lubyah.

The IDF elements pointed out that the terrorists' renewed hostilities and firing at the militias are carried out in the atmosphere of relative calm prevailing in southern Lebanon, and following the terrorists' promise to international elements to maintain the cease-fire.

U.S. BLACK LEADERS' DELEGATION MEETS WITH MAJOR HADDAD

TA190633 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Oct 79 TA

[Excerpt] The Christian commander in southern Lebanon, Major Haddad, has met a group of American black leaders at Ayyelet Hashahar, a kibbutz in northern Israel. He told them that the PLO terrorists want to seize control of the whole of Lebanon and turn it into a base for terrorism--not only against Israel but against the whole free world.

HA'ARETZ ASSESSES U.S. MEDIATION EFFORTS IN LEBANON

TA181235 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Oct 79 p 1 TA

[By 'Uzi Benizman]

[Text] Israel will base its willingness to join any stable arrangement in southern Lebanon on the condition that the Syrian Army pull out of Lebanese territory, and that all PLO terrorist activities, including PLO-inspired acts inside Israel, be stopped.

Prior to the impending arrival in Israel at the end of this month of Mr Philip Habib to examine the possibility of turning the present cease-fire in Lebanon into something more stable and permanent, government elements stress that the current calm was achieved thanks to IDF actions and not merely as a result of American mediation.

Sources in Jerusalem are doubtful about the Habib mission's chances of success, although they do not take lightly the seriousness of the U.S. intention to attempt to establish a permanent truce in Lebanon. Even though Israel's stand has not yet taken final shape prior to Habib's arrival, a tendency can be discerned in Jerusalem to insist on a number of basic conditions, including the pullout of Syria's Army from Lebanese soil, the cessation of all PLO terrorist activity, and ensuring the Christians' interests.

NABULUS MAYOR GETS $2.5 MILLION AID FROM JORDAN-PLO FUND

TA160700 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1620 GMT 15 Oct 79 TA

[Text] Nabulus, 15 Oct--Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'a returned from Jordan this week with $2.5 million for the financing of development projects in Nabulus, especially those connected with the electricity and water networks. Ash-Shak'a told the ITIM correspondent on Monday that his trip to Jordan had been successful, and that he had held meetings with the Jordanian and PLO officials in charge of the joint Jordanian-PLO fund for aid to the inhabitants of the territories. It was in the wake of his meetings that these officials agreed to extend large financial aid to Nabulus.

BRIEFS

ECONOMIC APPOINTMENT--The finance minister has appointed David Bar Hayim to be in charge of following up the implementation of the Cabinet's economic decisions. He will be responsible for coordinating and following up the decisions made by the full Cabinet and by ministerial committees on economic and trade affairs. He will report directly to Minister Ehrlich. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 17 Oct 79 TA]

OFFICIAL REPORTS 3 ATTACKS ON KHUZESTAN OIL INSTALLATIONS

NC181727 Paris AFP in English 1713 GMT 18 Oct 79 NC

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 18 (AFP)--Three attacks were reported by provincial authorities today on oil installations in Khuzestan, southern Iran. Saboteurs failed in attempts to set fire to oil wells, but they managed to cut off for several hours supplies of kerosene and gas leading from the Khuzestan oilfields to Ahwaz, the provincial capital, the provincial vice-governor said.

TEHRAN CITES PRESS ON KHOMEYNI ORDER TO END EXECUTIONS

LD181924 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1715 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[From press headlines]

[Excerpt] BAMDAD newspaper reports that the procecutor general of the revolution has announced that in accordance with an order issued by Imam Khomeyni, executions should be stopped until further notice.

KHOMEYNI'S OFFICE CORRECTS EARLIER REPORT ON ENVOY'S DUTIES

LD181810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] The following announcement was issued by Imam Khomeyni's office in Qom today:

In the name of God the compassionate and the merciful. It is hereby announced that the report broadcast at 1400 today concerning the assignment of Thiqat al-Islam Pishva'i to Bandar-e Anzali to deal harshly with those who have disturbed the peace, is incorrect. This report should state that he is a clergyman of Bandar-e Anzali and is obliged to act quickly in restoring the peace, satisfying the oppressed classes, appraising their complaints and removing the causes of dissatisfaction with the help of the government and other ulema, and to give an accurate report on recent events in this port.

[Signed] Imam Khomeyni's office, Qom.

AMBASSADOR TO JORDAN VIEWS ARAB-IRANIAN RELATIONS

JN181712 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Oct 79 JN

[Text] Iranian Ambassador to Jordan Dr Hamzeh Akhavan Saqafi has said that relations between the Iranian revolution and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan are strong and that Iranian officials look forward to further cooperation between the two countries on all levels.

In a statement published by the weekly newspaper AL-LIWA' yesterday, the ambassador added that the Iranian Foreign Ministry's policy aims at consolidating Arab-Iranian relations and Islamic-Iranian relations because this is one of the main tasks of the Islamic revolution. The ambassador denied that Iran has any ambitions outside its borders. He stressed that Iran considers its neighbors in the Gulf and all the Islamic states as its brothers. Regarding increased oil production, the ambassador said that the Islamic revolution considers oil a national wealth for all generations and it is neither just nor in the national interest to exhaust it.

Regarding news reports on U.S. intentions to interfere in the oilfields, the ambassador said that such statements are not new and there is a big difference between words and deeds.

He added that the United States will think much and take into account international circumstances before undertaking any step in this regard because the Islamic revolution possesses huge power in the face of any foreign move in the region. This power is that of the holy war, which becomes compulsory for every Muslim man and woman if an inch of Iranian territory is invaded.

Regarding Iran's stand toward the Palestinian cause,the ambassador said that tearing down the Israeli flag and hoisting the Palestinian flag in its place, stopping the flow of oil to Israel as well as severing relations with it and striking at all its interests, naming the last Friday of Ramadan every year as a day for Palestine, and calling on all the world Muslims to liberate Jerusalem are a true translation of Iran's stands on the Palestinian rights.

INVESTMENT ORGANIZATION DISCUSSES ATOMIC ENERGY

LD181842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] This morning the High Council of the Investment Organization of Iran was formed in Tehran, headed by Mr 'Ali Ardalan, minister of economic affairs and finance, and with the participation of ministers of agriculture and rural development, foreign affairs, and industries and mines, and the chief of the Iran Atomic Energy Organization. In this session the problems of investment in atomic energy were discussed and appraised; it was agreed that the necessary decisions would be taken following the requisite studies.

The minister of economic affairs and finance said at the end of this session: The liquidation of the Trans-Iran Company, which operated in Luxembourg, was agreed by the council, and it was decided that the share capital and profits of that company be returned to the government treasury. It was, moreover, decided that legal steps be taken to liquidate the Global Venture Company, in which Iran has invested and the share capital be transferred to the Iranian Government treasury.

TEHRAN DAILY ANNOUNCES BAZARGAN TO VISIT ALGERIA

LD182102 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] BAMDAD, in its special news section under the title: "The First Foreign Trip of the Prime Minister", has written that the first trip of the prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran will take place in the very near future. The trip will be to Algiers, and during this trip, which will last for 3 days, the prime minister will discuss different matters with Algerian officials.

The special correspondent of the morning daily BAMDAD, which has not set the date for this trip, has said that the trip will take place in the very near future; he further added that the prime minister's visit to Algeria depicts the importance of relations between Iran and Algeria.

JURISTS URGE BAZARGAN TO PROTECT FORMER NIOC CHIEF NAZIH

LD181353 [Editorial Report LD] Tehran BAMDAD in Persian on 11 October carries a 500-word letter from the Jurists' Association to the prime minister under the headline "Mr Bazargan, It Is Up to You To Defend Nazih".

The letter praises (former National Iranian Oil Company Director) Nazih and criticizes the treatment which he and his family have received, and recounts his record of struggle alongside Bazargan, to whom it says: "If it is anyone's duty to defend Nazih, it is yours."

The letter also lists international organizations which have sent telegrams to the prime minster in defense of Nazih, and makes a plea for the freedom and security of all the people of Iran. In conclusion, the letter demands that the prime minister should not shirk his "duty" to defend Nazih's freedom, safety and reputation.

BAZARGAN ASKED TO INVESTIGATE EVENTS IN KORDESTAN

LD181357 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 13 Oct 79 p 2 LD

[Unattributed report: "Open Letter From the Jurists' Association on Events in Kordestan"]

[Excerpts] The Jurists Association of Iran has sent a letter to Prime Minister Bazargan concerning events in Kordestan. The text is as follows:

"You are aware of the deplorable reports coming in from Kurdish-populated areas in the provinces of West Azarbayjan, Kordestan and Kermanshahan. These give details of assaults being mounted against the freedoms and fundamental rights of our fellow countrymen. The disastrous occurrence at the village of Qarna in particular is a sign of inhuman revenge and violence, and must be investigated seriously. The spread of bigotry and incitement of strife not only give broader scope for acts which offend against human rights, but also cause restrictions on freedom which increase day by day as well as division among the people of Iran, whose great need is for the free pursuit of national unity. Our demand is that you select and put forward a member of the Executive Board [presumably of the Jurists Association] or your own Board of Management [as published] to participate in a delegation which should be sent to Kordestan to investigate what is happening in the region.

We await your favorable reply in agreement with this proposal. [Signed] The Executive Board of the Jurists' Association of Iran.

NATIONAL FRONT LISTS POLICY OBJECTIONS IN LETTER TO BAZARGAN

LD181409 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 13 Oct 79 p 12 LD

[Unattributed report: "Open Letter From the National Front of Iran to Prime Minister"]

[Excerpts] To His Excellency Engineer Bazargan, prime minister of the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

We write to you at a time when grief at the death of their loved ones has plunged many families into mourning and when the whole country has come under the shadow of public lament at the loss of a group of our finest youth. Well-informed and farsighted people are dismayed at what is happening in the country and concerned for the future, and they can find nobody who will take responsibility for remedying the disorder. Since your installation at the head of the Provisional Revolutionary Government, the National Front approach has been to strengthen the government. It has spared no effort in using available facilities. While we were strengthening the government, we were always mindful that our views on the country's affairs, the public good, and the safeguarding of the gains of the revolution to assure its permanence should be brought to your attention, of other government authorities and officials, and the new cabinet in power.

Alongside issues involving criticism, we always tried to present solutions and practical proposals for eradicating difficulties and deficiencies.

We are well aware that when a great revolution takes place, it results in some disturbances in state affairs and that, together with its glorious gains, it also brings about considerable derangement in society and the economy, which must then be built up again by new organizations and a national and humane regime replacing the defunct and obsolete relationships of the past.

However, as time passes, instead of the revolution maturing and the country advancing toward reconstruction, the new regime which is now gradually assuming power conforms less and less to the aims of the revolution.

War and fratricide have now overtaken the entire region of Kordestan. Many groups of Revolution Guards, the finest of our youth, have lost their lives. Those who should be working and devoting themselves to the reconstruction program in various parts of the country find themselves elsewhere, on mountain roads and in Kurdish towns, being killed group by group and hand to hand by their fellow countrymen. The National Front of Iran has stated many times that it will fight hard against any idea of separatism, and it maintains the belief that elements allied to foreigners should not be given the opportunity to act.

However, the government, which 8 months after the victory of the revolution has lost many valuable opportunities, has chosen an approach which results in confrontation and the perpetuation of strife and lets opportunist elements and those who harbor ill-will hold sway over a large group of uninformed people, sullying the logical demands of the Kurds, our fellow countrymen, and perverting them, instead of solving the problems in the region correctly, with reference to the logical demands of the population of such an important area of the country.

Interference by irresponsible and uninformed, fanatical elements and their untoward propaganda makes the solution of these complexities more difficult. Nobody can deny that the forces of law and order must strengthen security in the region.

The letter continues with topics mentioned in previous statements and letters:

Who is responsible when our courageous youth meet their death in the deserts and mountains of our homeland at the hands of our other brothers? Can the harmful traces of this fratricide be removed from our midst by means of the title "martyrdom" and "martyr" and the holding of splendid funeral services and mourning ceremonies?

Do your conscience, your beliefs, your past record allow you to place all your authority at the disposal of those who seek the solution to social issues through violence and harsh measures?

What We Demand of You

Elsewhere the open letter reads as follows:

Stating our demands in this letter, we direct you in general to your historical responsibility, and we declare that to persist in this course will inflict irreparable damage on the Iranian nation. You who have spent a lifetime serving the nation will bear great responsibility for the unpleasant consequences.

Leaving aside the Kordestan issue, our judgment is confirmed by the government's methods as regards other matters: The clamor and uproar over Mr Hasan Nazih, chairman of the board and managing director of the National Iranian Oil Company, and the way in which the government dealt with this confirms the chaos in present conditions.

The National Front of Iran studies carefully and follows up events which take place in the country and, as in other cases, it is not influenced by personal considerations in the case of Mr Nazih. After Mr Nazih clearly stated and publicized his views on the constitution, on legislative procedures and administrative methods after the revolution, there were instigations against him both within the oil company and in other circles.

[Signed] The National Front of Iran.

VOP REPORTS ON FATAH DELEGATION'S ACTIVITIES

JN180727 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 18 Oct 79 JN

[Excerpts] Last night, Iranian Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan received brother Abu Jihad, Fatah central committee member. They discussed developments in the area, the Palestinian issue and southern Lebanon. They also discussed issues of mutual interest.

Brother Abu Jihad and the delegation accompanying him have visited the premises of the Iranian Society for Cooperation With Palestine. The delegation also met with Ayatollah (Tamimi), representative of the Defense Ministry. The meeting was attended by Staff Brig Gen Abu al-Walid, chairman of the central operations committee; brother Col Fakhri Qaddura; and the military attache in the Palestine Embassy in Tehran.

FRIDAY PRAYERS TO COMMEMORATE TALEQANI'S DEATH

LD181046 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0830 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the staff concerned with holding Friday prayers at the Imam Khomeyni's publicity office:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

"O ye who believe, when the call is proclaimed to prayer on Friday, hasten earnestly to the remembrance of God and foresake business: That is best for you if ye but knew." [Koranic verse]

Our people's bloody battle cries are still ringing across the bloody skies of our martyr-rearing homeland and our people's congregational prayer is: O God, dispatch unto us, the oppressed nation, a Moses who will remove the dust of meekness from our visage, who will blow a divine spirit into our compressed and frozen bodies and would plant the sapling of the love for freedom and faith in our hearts so that our capabilities might burgeon forth and so that the blackness of ignorance, irredentism, oppression, blasphemy, polytheism and hypocrisy might change into the light of liberty and the broad uplands of justice, faith, monotheism and truth!

The reply to this unanimous prayer was the realization of the miraculous revolution which was carried out by those who relied on God and the nobleness of purpose of the heroic nation and who trusted in the lord of the era [the hidden 12th imam]--may God on high hasten His venerable release--and which crushingly and mightily cleansed and removed any malevolent traces of the satanic regime. Now is the time to strengthen, upon the ruins of the edifices of oppression and hegemony, the foundations of the order of monotheistic fairness and justice; and this cannot be achieved save by rendering one another succor and through the monolithic endeavors of their heroic nation and through the decisive course of the Imam Khomeyni.

One of the ways to realize this vast revolutionary movement in reconstructing this pillaged caravan lies in holding in esteem and glorifying the precious rites, including holding the Friday prayers, a practice which is imbued with a profound and vast philosophy.

In the meantime, this week's Friday prayers coincide with the 40th day after the death of the great struggler, the Abu Dhar [companion of the prophet] of the age, Ayatollah Taleqani. While deeply sorrowing for his absence, we will mourn his memory this Friday, too. But let us beware that in the absence of the Abu Dhar of the age, we do not leave the Imam Khomeyni, the 'Ali of the era, alone. To this end, by participating most auspiciously in the Friday prayers on the lawn of Tehran University campus--which in itself is a factor of strength in organization and the monolithic unity of the struggling nation and constantly enlightens them about vital and sensitive political issues--let us be active and let us thereby give thanks for God's immense bounties.

May the unity of the compressed ranks of our nation be most auspicious in its manifestation of the Friday prayers.

Our rendezvous is on Friday on the lawn of the university.

THREE CONSTITUTION PRINCIPLES APPROVED; MINORITIES REASSURED

LD181532 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Excerpts] The 48th open session of the Council for the Final Study of the Constitution was held this morning under the chairmanship of Dr Beheshti. It studied and approved another three principles of the draft constitution, relating to the duties and responsibilities of the prime minister and the Council of Ministers.

At the outset of today's session, Dr Beheshti addressed the meeting on the occasion of the 40th day after the death of Ayatollah Taleqani. He said: We call on the entire Iranian nation and all those who loved the late Ayatollah Taleqani, particularly the educated, dedicated, vigilant and struggling younger generation, at this sensitive historic time--when U.S., Israeli and European colonialism have hatched a sinister plan for psychological warfare. Fomenting trouble, arson and plotting in the country's various nooks and corners and have begun to carry out the same--to maintain the unity of all segments of society, armed with sympathy and unity of purpose, and not just sit around waiting and thinking that one day a concrete and organized unity will come and rescue our revolution. Throughout the revolution, without having an organization, we enjoyed unity; we had cooperation and esprit de corps. Organizational unity will take time and must pass through certain stages. God willing, we will achieve that unity.

Then the council discussed the agenda and studied the principles.

A principle approved by 48 votes for, 1 against and 8 abstentions said: Should the prime minister wish to dismiss a minister and replace him with another minister, this dismissal and appointment should be done with the approval of the president of the republic and the prime minister should obtain a vote of confidence from the majlis for the new minister. Also, should half of the members of the Council of Ministers change after the majlis expresses its confidence in the government, the government must again seek a vote of confidence from the majlis.

On the basis of the next principle, every minister is accountable to the majlis with regard to his special duties. However, in matters carried out with the approval of the Council of Minister, the ministers are jointly accountable. This principle was approved by 49 votes for, 2 against and 5 abstentions.

On the basis of the last principle, approved by today's session by 54 votes for, 2 against and no abstentions, in addition to instances of law whereby the Council of Ministers or a certain minister is assigned to formulate regulations for the execution of laws, the Council of Ministers, in order to carry out administrative tasks, guarantee the execution of laws and regulate administrative organizations, is entitled to issue resolutions and regulations. Each minister, within the limits of his duties and the decrees issued by the Council of Ministers, has the right to pass regulations and issue circulars. These regulations, however, should never be in contravention of the law.

Toward the end of today's session Ayatollah Montazeri, referring to a letter received pertaining to the representatives of the religious minorities in the council, said:

A letter addressed to me says that I do not allow the gentlemen who are the representatives of the minorities in the council to express their views. I must say that this is nothing but a lie and that these gentlemen, like the rest of the representatives, have the right to express their opinions and to vote on all issues. All the Christian, Jewish and Zoroastrian minorities in Iran should know that they enjoy special respect and that all Muslims must observe respect for them.

At the conclusion of the speech by Ayatollah Montazeri, the representatives of the religious minorities in the council confirmed his remarks.

KYODO: NAVY QUARANTINES PERSIAN GULF COASTLINE

OW181051 Tokyo KYODO in English 1014 GMT 16 Oct 79 OW

[Text] Beirut, Oct 18 KYODO--Adm. Ahamed Madani, commander of the Iranian Navy, has quarantined most of Iran's coast on the Persian Gulf since late last month, according to 'The Arab Press Service' magazine issued here Thursday. The magazine said intelligence sources speculated that Madani was likely to revolt against the religious rule of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

It quoted Arab military sources in Dubai as saying Madani's navy command, unchanged since Iran's Islamic revolution early this year, had sealed off the country's coastline from Kharq Island near the head of the Gulf, where crude oil is loaded on tankers, to Bandar Abbas on the Strait of Hormuz, the exit from the Gulf. It said warships and Iran's 15,000-strong marine corps controlled a 48-kilometer-wide zone along the 700-kilometer-long coast, and was preventing Islamic Guards of the Ayatollah Khomeyni from entering the area without permission.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF INSURANCE COMPANIES HELD

LD190830 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] The joint general assembly of insurance companies and institutes was held at the prime minister's office this morning. It was chaired by Economic Affairs and Finance Minister 'Ali Ardalan and was attended by the ministers of agriculture and rural development, labor, health and social welfare, and commerce, and by the chairman of the Iran Central Insurance Company.

At the end of the session, Abdol Hoseyn Danesh-Pour, chairman of the Iran Central Insurance Company, discussed the decrees of the general assembly. He said: As proposed by the Iran Central Insurance Company, the joint general assembly of insurance institutes that have been nationalized has decided that the future system of insurance in Iran must be cooperative rather than a capital investment system aimed at profitmaking.

Also, regarding article 30 of the Iran Central Insurance Company governing the founding of companies, the joint general assembly agreed that all nationalized companies or companies whose management has been handed over to the government and also institutes affiliated with the Foundation of the Oppressed can continue their present insurance arrangements. These companies and institutes are not obliged to have insurance dealings with the Iran Central Insurance Company.

He said that attempts will be made to assign some of the duties of the Iran Central Insurance Company to other insurance companies that have been nationalized. The chairman of the Iran Central Insurance Company said in conclusion: By the end of the current year, four reinsurance funds will be established. The joint fire reinsurance fund has begun operating with the Iran Central Insurance Company. Joint reinsurance funds for airlines, cargo and ships' hulls will be established by the end of the current year.

4-HOUR ATTACK ON REVOLUTION GUARD POST NEAR NAQADEH

LD171215 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] At midnight last night the Do'ab Revolution Guard post 9 kilometers from Naqadeh was attacked by counterrevolutionaries. A young man and a soldier were wounded, and part of the building was damaged. The attack was launched from three directions--south, east and west--and after 4 hours of fighting the assault ended, thanks to assistance from the gendarmerie in Naqadeh. The attackers disappeared.

ONE REVOLUTION GUARD KILLED IN KORDESTAN CLASH

LD171220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] A violent clash took place in the town of Bukan in Kordestan between armed hijackers and Islamic Revolution Guards stationed in the town. One guard was martyred and another four were wounded and, according to a guards' spokesman in Bukan, a number of the assailants were also killed and wounded, but no accurate figures are available.

BUSHEHR COMMERCE OFFICIAL DISCUSSES SHORTAGES

LD190634 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Following the rumors regarding the shortage of foodstuffs in Bushehr, the general manager of commerce of Bushehr explained the problems and difficulties in an interview. He said: The rice quota of this province is about 100 tons per month which is being distributed all over the province by the wholesalers. About the shortage of cooking oil, he said: The oil quota is about 220 tons per month which is distributed among the people in this region by the wholesalers and under the supervision of the headquarters for the prevention of overpricing. He then said that these shortages are not being felt that much, and if there are any shortages, it is because of lack of growth in production rates which will be remedied once factores start working and the wheels of the economy start turning again. He also said that there are opportunists who are stocking up these materials, creating artificial shortages.

The general manager of commerce of Bushehr Province warned those stocking up the basic necessities that any such action will be combatted and this kind of profiteering will stop. He said if such cases are spotted, those responsible will be prosecuted. Referring to the system of centralization of power in the provinces, he expressed hopes that with the beginning of the activities of city councils this centralization system will be delegated to the provinces. [as heard]

BUKAN DISORDERS CAUSED BY BAZAAR FIRE

ID172048 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 17 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Following the disorders that occurred in the western Iranian city of Bukan [in Kordestan] last night, the commander of the Revolution Guards in that city told the PARS NEWS AGENCY that these riots were caused by the fire that gutted the bazaar in Bukan. He said that the Revolution Guards who had gone to the bazaar to put out the fire were attacked by armed men while they were returning. This resulted in heavy clashes in which one Revolution Guard, a resident of Bijar, was killed and three other guards from Tehran were injured. The commander added that the attackers might have lost between 17 to 18 of their colleagues in this clash but no dead bodies of the (?attackers) have so far been traced.

According to the same report, five big shops in the bazaar area were completely gutted in last night's fire.

Meanwhile, the governor of Mahabad said upon contact with the PARS NEWS AGENCY that total calm prevailed in Mahabad last night.

NVOI BLAMES ANZALI, RASHT INCIDENTS ON GOVERNMENT NEGLECT

TA182200 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 18 Oct 79 TA

[Unattributed commentary: "Instead of Shooting at the Fishermen Provide for and Guarantee Their Livelihood"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Discussion of the regrettable incidents in Bandar-e Anzali and Rasht is at the center of attention of our homeland's public. In recent days [words indistinct] incident, a number of people were killed and many persons were injured. In Anzali the incident started when a group of the Revolution Guards tried to break up demonstrations by the fishermen and began shooting at them. This lead to a (?bloody) confrontation and killings and finally [words indistinct]. Peaceful demonstrations by the fishermen in protest against fishing restrictions at sea [words indistinct].

It is clear that fishing, particularly for sturgeon, must be controlled according to a specific [word indistinct] and system based on securing the interests of the people and government. There is no room for discussion. The country's land and sea wealth belongs to the entire Iranian nation and should be utilized for the interests of the people and the maintenance of their needs. There is also no room for discussion that the government must supervise this vital national matter. The revolution's government is answerable to the nation and the leader of the revolution, and should carry out its duty to moderately preserve and exploit the national resources. All these are obvious matters which are acknowledged by all.

However, the incident in Bandar-e Anzali should not only be reviewed from the [words indistinct] but also from the point of view of the people's interest and livelihood, and also the duty of the Revolution Guards. The subject of the dispute between the fishermen and the fisheries department and the matter of sea fishing is not new. The fact is that about 3,000 fishermen in Bandar-e Anzali--who, with their families, comprise a population of 15,000-make their living by fishing. The work of these fishermen is [words indistinct].

Previously, the government made no committment to maintain the livelihood of these hardworking people, who, in order to obtain bread and to fish, occasionally risk their lives. As the saying goes, they left these individuals to God's grace.

The general life of these fishermen, whether it be those who were members of the cooperative companies or those who allegedly operated independently [words indistinct]. Thousands of hardworking fishermen never requested free bread from any individual or official. In exchange for exhausting work accompanied by various dangers, they have demanded their legitimate right. During the domination of the satanic regime, the conduct of the puppet governments of the deposed shah and those running the fisheries department toward these toilers was always oppressive and based on discrimination and injustice. Many times they answered the just talk of the fishermen with bullets and prison. They drove the fishermen from their homes and havens and imposed various forms of oppression on them. The question that is posed and [words indistinct] is this: What measures have the Provisional Revolution Government and responsible officials of Shilat [fisheries department] taken toward securing livelihood and work for these hardworking individuals and (?guaranteeing) their legal rights that is (?different) from that of the former regime? If it is assumed that, following the Iranian nation's revolution, the conduct and attitude of responsible officials toward the demands of the toilers--like these hardworking fishermen--is based on the same method as that of the former regime's rulers, through applying force, oppression and injustice; in such a case [words indistinct] the counterrevolution.

The essence of this revolution of the Iranian nation is the maintenance of the rights of the deprived and the toilers, and in which part of our country can one find more deprived people than these hardworking fishermen? If the government and responsible officials had paid attention to the legitimate demands of the fishermen and to the maintenance and guaranteeing of their livelihood, there is no question that the matter would not have led to protest demonstrations. The problem is this that, even now, the attitude of the authorities and officials in many of our government organizations toward the problems of the country and toward the needs and demands of the members of society is based on the same trend of the past and from above [words indistinct].

No gentlemen, it is our people which pulled down monsters such as the deposed shah from the throne and threw them into the dustbin of history, and our people can take power from those who tread the same path as history's rejects. The people's demands should be understood. The ills of members of society should be sincerely recognized and thought should be given to their treatment. Why should fishermen who endanger their lives to secure the needs of society not have the security of a livelihood? And why do they shoot at their peaceful demonstrations? Who gave the Revolution Guards the right to shoot at toiling people, a deprived people? The imam repeatedly (?called) for safeguarding their lives and rights. By killing these toilers you trample on the basic foundations of the revolution and the revolution's gains and hand a pretext for intrigue, conspiracy and subversion to the counterrevolution.

The Revolution Guard, above all, is committed and responsible to the nation and to these same barefooted toilers, and his weapon should be used in the defense of the lives, rights and interests of these toilers.

It is hoped that Admiral Madani [commander in chief of the Iranian Navy] and other responsible officials will investigate this bloody incident in Rasht from the viewpoint of committment to the nation and the revolution and the imam's recommendations, and through the prespective of supporting the interests of the toilers, so that the agents of these brutal killings and assaults, in whatever position and attire, will be tried and punished. The rights of the fishermen must be recognized. Their livelihood must be secured and guaranteed, and the families of those killed must be put under the protective umbrella of the Provisional Revolution Government.

AFGHANISTAN

ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETS, DISCUSSES COOPERATIVES

LD182246 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] The Economic Commission of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan met under the chairmanship of Dr Shah Wali, the deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs. In this session, which was participated by the ministers of public health, finance, agriculture and land reform, planning affairs, mines and industry, commerce, and the concerned advisers, issues of the agenda were discussed one by one. Similarly, about a proposal of the Ministry of Commerce pertaining to the creation of consumer cooperatives, the establishment of the said cooperatives were agreed upon in principle after a discussion in a democratic atmosphere and all-sided assessment, and the Ministry of Commerce was instructed to try to pass the legal [word indistinct] of the system of the said cooperatives as soon as possible.

Similarly, the explanations provided by the minister of agriculture and land reform regarding the establishment and improvement of the affairs of the agricultural cooperatives and the fruition of the state farms were listened to by the session, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reforms was instructed to, on the basis of a scientifically prepared plan, render useful attention to strengthening the cooperative movement, agricultural undertakings in the country, better organization of the administration of the cooperatives, planning of cooperatives, raising the level of production, provision of technical services, and enlightenment of the cooperative members from the technical and social points of view.

Similarly, discussions were held about the state farms to become profitable, improvement of the situation of commerce, and other economic issues, and instructions were issued to the related departments about them.

51 POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED UNDER AMNESTY

ID182250 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 18 Oct 79 LD

[Text] In accordance with the slogan of Security, Legality and Justice, 29 political prisoners in Balkh Province and 22 political prisoners from Nimroz Province were released from jail after a scrutiny of their files by the authoritative commission today.

INDIA

MISHRA RETURNS FROM UNGA SESSION, COMMENTS ON NUCLEAR FUEL

BK181416 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 18 Oct 79 BK

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr. S. N. Mishra, said in New Delhi today that the United States will reply to India without much delay now about the supply of fuel for the Tarapore plant. Mr Mishra was addressing a news conference after his return from New York where he led the Indian delegation to the UN General Assembly session. He also had discussions with a number of his counterparts, including U.S. Secretary of State Vance.

Answering questions on the nuclear fuel issue, Mr Mishra said after his discussions with Mr Vance he had no reason to be pessimistic.

Mr Mishra denied reports about Bhutan's reported demand for what has been termed as updating the treaty with India. He said no such request has been conveyed to the Government of India. At the same time, he stressed that there cannot be any change in the special relationship between the two countries.

Asked to comment about Mrs Gandhi's remark that even a small country like Bhutan is showing eyes to India, Mr Mishra said she has to own responsibility for weakening the compulsions of the India-Bhutanese special relationship. It is a matter of surprise that she should have a courage to show eyes to us after what she did during the emergency, he added.

About the strengthening of the U.S. naval presence in the Indian Ocean, the minister said this is entirely unacceptable to us and we regret it. He said an ad-hoc committee of the littoral and other states is preparing a ground for an international conference on keeping the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

Replying to questions about the London conference on Zimbabwe Rhodesia, Mr Mishra reiterated that the talks should not go on indefinitely and the Patriotic Front must take part in it. No solution is possible and the fighting will not stop unless the Front participates in the parleys as provided in the Lusaka package scheme.

SINGH DEFENDS PREVENTIVE DETENTION ORDINANCE

BK181555 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Oct 79 BK

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Charan Singh, has reiterated that the preventive detention ordinance will be used only against economic offenders and not for any other purpose. Addressing a public meeting in Gorakhpur this evening, he said on the one hand people want us to check the price rise and on the other some political parties and leaders are opposing the ordinance. He regretted that the business community in the cuntry would like to take advantage of the miseries of the people.

The prime minister said that 48 percent of the people in the country are living below the poverty line. It should be our duty to improve their lot. The prime minister said the gap between the rich and the poor has widened further during the Janata rule. He said to remove poverty, agriculture production has to be increased and more cottage industries should be set up.

Mr Charan Singh said Mrs Gandhi has not expressed regret for imposing the emergency. He warned the people that if she comes back to power, she will enforce dictatorship.

CHINESE JOURNALIST DELEGATION URGES NEWS EXCHANGE

BK181035 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 18 Oct 79 BK

[Text] The leader of the five-member Chinese journalists delegation now on a visit to India, Mr (Li Zhin), has said that the official Chinese news agency XINHUA desires to exchange news with the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA. Speaking at a function in New Delhi, he said that XINHUA is expanding its foreign news coverage in the country's changed political situation.

PAKISTAN

KARACHI RADIO URGES U.S. TO RESUME ECONOMIC NUCLEAR AID

BK190538 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 18 Oct 79 BK

[Commentary by A. Salim Zuberi]

[Text] In depth discussions are reported to have taken place between the high-level delegations of Pakistan and the United States in Washington yesterday and today. The two delegations were headed by Pakistan's foreign affairs adviser, Mr Agha Shahi, and the U.S. secretary of state, Mr Cyrus Vance.

It is after a long gap that the two countries are exchanging views at this level. According to reports reaching here the talks opened in an amicable atmosphere and a joint statement is expected to be issued tonight at the end of the 2-day talks.

Besides other issues of bilateral interest, Pakistan's peaceful nuclear development program is reported to have figured prominently in the discussions. This is the main issue which has resulted in some strain in the relations between Pakistan and the United States. As an old ally and friend of the United States, Pakistan always tried to maintain very cordial relations with that country. But some misunderstandings have cropped up as far as the development of nuclear resources are concerned. The development of nuclear resources for this country is, as President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has several times said, a question of our life and death. With the abnormal increase in oil prices, Pakistan is forced to develop alternate sources of energy. So far the country has been depending on hydro and thermal electricity besides gas and meager reserves of coal to meet its energy requirements. But to meet the future growth and demand, these sources of energy are not only insufficient but also so costly that a poor country like Pakistan cannot afford them.

It has been estimated that with the growth of population and acceleration in the economic development, the country would require about 30,000 megawatts of energy by the end of the century. These requirements cannot be met through traditional sources. A major part of these requirements has got to be met from other and cheaper sources of generating energy and it is for this purpose Pakistan has been constantly trying to develop its nuclear resources. These facts, unfortunately, have been wrongly interpreted by the U.S. Government. It accused Pakistan of trying to make what it later named as the Islamic bomb. While making such an allegation the U.S. authorities forgot that Pakistan had always opposed the idea of proliferation of nuclear weapons and advocated a nuclear-free zone in South and Southeast Asia. At the same time the Pakistan Government agreed to open its nuclear installations to international inspection, provided all other countries which are working on such programs agree to this condition. But preventing Pakistan from continuing its peaceful nuclear research program and letting others go ahead is unethical and unjust. India, who has already exploded an atomic device and which has refused to get its atomic installations inspected by the international agencies, has been allowed to carry on with its program without any hindrance. Pakistan is therefore justified in thinking that discriminatory treatment is being meted out to it.

It is hoped that the U.S. Government would appreciate our difficulties. It should not only lift the restrictions imposed on our economic assistance as a result of the current talks but also help in the development of nuclear resources so vitally needed for this country's development.

NEW MARTIAL LAW ORDER ISSUED FOR SIND PROVINCE

BK181030 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 18 Oct 79 BK

[Text] The martial law administrator, Zone C, Lt Gen S.M. Abbasi, has issued Martial Law Order No 100 constituting 32 military courts, including three special military courts, for the Province of Sind. Persons guilty of serious crimes will be tried by these military courts which have been set up in the light of the president's recent speech wherein he had stated that efforts will be made to keep the prices of essential commodities at an appropriate level and evils like corruption, thefts, dacoities [robberies] curbed and begar [bonded labor] camps eliminated.

PROVINCES TO CRACK DOWN ON CORRUPTION, ILLEGAL TRADING

BK190434 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Oct 79 BK

[Text] The Punjab governor, Lt Gen Savar Khan, has said that all fresh cases of corruption against government officials will be tried by the military courts to insure their speedy disposal. Presiding over a meeting of the provincial advisers in Lahore today, he said a serious notice was also taken of the inefficiency in the government departments and negligence to duty shown by the functionaries. The governor said: To set an example and dispense prompt justice, punishment should be awarded to the delinquents in proven cases. It was also decided that government inspection teams would visit government offices to assess their performance and check relevant records on the spot to insure quick disposal of the grievances of the people. The (?staff) martial law administrators have been directed to strengthen their inspection teams in the districts.

Special raiding teams of army officers and magistrates have been formed throughout the Punjab to check profiteering, hoarding and black-marketing of articles of daily use. Offending traders will be tried by the military courts.

In Baluchistan, 18 military courts, 13 summary and five special courts have been set up to try cases of hoarding, profiteering, black-marketing, smuggling and other crimes. This was officially stated in Quetta today.

AZAD KASHMIR ISSUES WHITE PAPER ON 1975 ELECTIONS

BK190619 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Oct 79 BK

[Text] The Azad Kashmir Government today issued the first half of a white paper on the conduct of the 1979 general elections in Azad Kashmir. It throws light on the large-scale (?abettance), manipulations and malpractices which rendered the elections as mere farce in the name of elections. The paper is based primarily on the findings of the report of an inquiry commission headed by Mr Justice Malik Mohammad Aslam Khan, who had thoroughly probed the conduct of the 1975 assembly and presidential elections in Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

The white paper says the 1975 elections were in fact elections where the government-backed four-party alliance candidates had been selected and their success insured long before the holding of those elections under a set plan. It says that a special rigging plan was devised and executed by the government in Azad Kashmir and Pakistan, ruthlessly using the official machinery in favor of the government's four-party alliance which consisted of the Azad Kashmir People's Party headed by Mir Ali Jam Shah, All-Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference then headed by Sardar Mohammad Ibrahim Khan, the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation League headed by Mr K.H. Khurshid and the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference headed by Chowdhury Nur Hussain.

First, the united political front was set up with the blessings on the then People's Party government in Pakistan as part of the rigging plan. Long before the 1975 elections, the People's Party government in Pakistan planned to establish the People's Party rule on Azad Kashmir by all foul means. An attempt was made to force the then government in Azad Kashmir to resign through (?covert) methods but when it failed, the four-party alliance was formed. A special administrative machinery was created to work up the rigging plan. Mr (Islam Hussain) started functioning as chief secretary in Azad Kashmir in March 1975 against the orders of the then Azad Kashmir president.

At the behest of the alliance, special administrative and judicial changes were made and new posts created to appoint only (alliance) officers. A major reshuffle was made in the police department. The so-called election experts were imported from the neighboring Punjab and the defunct FSF [Federal Security Force] and the Punjab reserve police were sent to Azad Kashmir under the stage-managed (Ajod) incident in April 1975. These forces created awe and terror. The opponents were harassed and hounded out and their meetings were dispersed.

The white paper pointed out that Mr (Mohammad Hayat Chaman), adviser to the then prime minister, set up a control room near Muzafarabad to oversee the rigging plan. It says money was freely distributed under various names and the beneficiaries included alliance candidates, government officials, pressmen, student leaders and political workers. This money was distributed out of the grant in aid by the Pakistan Government on the social welfare and health funds placed at the disposal of the then chief secretary. There were fairly a large number of instances in which no polling took place but the alliance candidates were shown to have won. In most cases ballot boxes were closed before the actual polling. The entire record of [words indistinct] was destroyed without any order by the chief election commissioner. Also, in most cases, bank statements of accounts were signed by the polling officers in order to insure the success of the alliance candidates. A sizable fleet of vehicles by the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] government was made available to these candidates for electioneering.

BRIEFS

DUTCH LOAN TO PAKISTAN--The Netherlands is to give Pakistan a loan of 40 million Dutch guilders during this year under an agreement signed in The Hague. It will also provide Pakistan a grant of 20 million guilders. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Oct 79 BK]

WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AID--The World Food Program is to provide Pakistan with $5.25 million of aid to be spent on a project in two districts of the Frontier Province. An agreement to this effect was signed in Islamabad on 11 October. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 Oct 79 BK]

NEW BERTH AT KARACHI--A special berth to handle cargo for the Karachi steel mills has been completed at Port Kasem at a cost of 270 million rupees. The director general of ports and shipping told that a conveyor belt is now being laid from the berth to the steel mill for speedy transportation of cargo. He said the conveyor belt is expected to be completed within 2 months. He said construction of four general cargo berths at Port Kasem are going according to schedule and these are expected to be completed by the end of 1980 at a cost of 300 million rupees. He said Port Kasem is now ready to receive ships. [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1105 GMT 15 Oct 79 BK]